COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

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No. 20.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890-91.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 114, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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No. 20.

BASUTOLAND.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 114, Old Series.]

No. 1.

Sir H. B. LOCH to LORD KNUTSFORD

Government House, Cape Town,
August 1, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch from Sir Marshall Clarke, containing his annual report on Basutoland for the year to 30th June 1891, and enclosing copies of reports from the various Assistant Commissioners and Medical Officers.

I enclose also a copy of the reply which I have addressed to Sir Marshall Clarke.

I am glad to bring to your Lordship's notice the continued progress which has been made in the effective administration of the territory during the year, and the salutary influence that Sir M. Clarke, by his judgment and tact, is earning over the Chiefs and people of Basutoland, while I also desire to express my high appreciation of the services of Mr. Lagden, and all the officers of the Basutoland Administration.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,
Governor and High Commissioner.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 1.

Sir M. CLARKE to HIGH COMMISSIONER.

Resident Commissioner's Office, Basutoland,
July 21, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency my report on British Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1891, together with copies of reports from

The Assistant Commissioner, Berea.
Do. Leribe
Do. Mafeteng.
Do. Maseru.
Do. Mohales Hoek.
Do. Quthing.
The Medical Officer, Maseru.
Do. Leribe.
Do. Mafeteng.

BASUTOLAND.

Owing to severe illness the medical officer at Mohalies Hoek is unable to furnish his report.

(2.) Proclamations having legislative effect have been issued by the High Commissioner,

(*a.*) Establishing rules and regulations for the granting of gratuities on discharge to native police.

(*b.*) Amending proclamation 1*b.* of 1890 relative to pensions to interpreters.

(*c.*) Providing for entry of Basutoland into South African Customs Union.

(*d.*) Publishing Order in Council extending Part II. of the Fugitive Offenders Act to Basutoland.

(3.) During the first five months of the year under report I was on leave of absence. Mr. Lagden, Government Secretary, administered the territory.

(4.) In the month of September disturbances broke out amongst the Bataung tribe in South Basutoland, and between the Chiefs Joel, Molapo, and Matela in the north, the result of family or tribal disputes. Mr. Lagden, loyally supported by the Paramount Chief and his councillors, dealt with both cases successfully.

(5.) At the annual Pitso held in November last, the Acting Resident Commissioner dwelt upon the danger to which inter-tribal quarrels expose the Basuto, and emphasized his warning by reading to those present a letter on the subject addressed to the Paramount Chief by the High Commissioner on the occasion of his late visit to Basutoland.

(6.) Though strained relations still exist between certain of the Chiefs, there has been no further fighting.

(7.) The formation of a consultative council, the principle of which has been approved by the High Commissioner, is still being widely discussed by the people. Though the weight of public opinion is in its favour certain Chiefs more or less openly oppose it. The High Commissioner in his communication to the Basuto, describes the council as a gift granted under conditions by Her Majesty's Government, and, as the value of this gift appears to me to depend on its being at the spontaneous desire of the people themselves, I have abstained from bringing anything which could be construed into pressure to bear on the question. Letsie, supported by his eldest son Lerothodi, has submitted to me a list of names of nearly all the proposed members chosen by the minor chiefs which appears good and representative, and has asked me to name a day for the opening of the council at Maseru. This is now under consideration.

(8.) Very few cases of "smelling out" for witchcraft have come to the knowledge of Government. The practice of "eating up" people on trifling pretexts appears also to have received a decided check.

Justice between native and native is on the whole fairly administered in the Chiefs' Courts, though a tendency to deal harshly with minor offenders is sometimes brought to my notice;

this is probably due to the Chiefs benefiting by the fines they inflict.

(9.) Notwithstanding that the border is constantly patrolled by the Basutoland police, I regret to have to say that a considerable amount of brandy smuggling, always in bottles, still goes on. This is markedly the case on our southern border. In the town of Wepener in the Orange Free State there are canteens which appear to be principally supported by selling drink to Basuto, besides which there are several well-known border canteens within the Orange Free State engaged in illicit trade. From the report of the Assistant Commissioner Mafeteng, it appears that no less than 58 cases of contraventions of the Basutoland Liquor Ordinance came before him during the past year. Experience has taught us that most Basuto, when addicted to drink, thieve, and that keepers of illicit canteens are, as a rule, receivers of stolen stock. This shows how closely the drink question affects security of property on both sides of the border

I have communicated with the President of the Orange Free State on this subject and he has promised me such co-operation as lies in his power.

(10.) Trade in Basutoland so far continues to improve. Returns for the year ended 31st December 1890, show imports to the amount of 250,000*l.* as against 160,000*l.* in the previous year. These figures are based on the value of goods consigned to Basutoland by Colonial or Orange Free State merchants—not on import values. Licenses for this year have been issued to—

Europeans - - - - - -	100
Arabs or Coolies - - - -	20

Some of the stores in charge of the latter have been within the last few months closed or transferred to Europeans, owing to the original license holders having been discharged, it is said, for dishonesty by their employers or supporters.

11. The wheat crop throughout Basutoland suffered from the heavy and constant rains at harvest time. Much of the grain germinated before it could be placed in shelter. The mealie crop is rather below the average, while in most parts of the country the millet proved a total failure. Further, a diminution of the number of natives leaving the country to work, owing chiefly to a general reduction of wages at the principal mining centres, will tend to reduce trade in the ensuing year.

12. From the 1st July Basutoland is admitted into the South African Customs Union. All the arrangements called for by the system thus inaugurated have been made, and beyond the addition to our police force of three European constables, no alterations in the permanent staff of the territory appear necessary.

(13.) Our relations with neighbouring States continue to be very satisfactory. As a rule the Basutoland officials receive cordial co-operation from the officials of the Cape Colony and the Orange Free State.

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(14.) In September last the President of the Orange Free State met the Acting Resident Commissioner for the purpose of personally visiting the sources of the Caledon River with a view to the settlement of a long pending question as to which was the particular stream indicated by Sir Philip Wodehouse, when in 1869 he defined the boundary between Basutoland and the Orange Free State. As a result the President, who, having had full powers delegated him by the Volksraad, informs me in a despatch, dated 26th June 1891, that he accepts our views.

(15.) In May last the High Commissioner authorised me to enter into negotiations with the Orange Free State Government on the subject of proposed telegraphic communication between Maseru and the Orange Free State system.

The President informs me that the Volksraad has sanctioned an expenditure of not exceeding 600*l.* for this purpose and proposes that a line from Lady Brand to Maseru be constructed, each State to bear half the cost.

(16.) The census taken in April last shows a population of—

Whites - - - - -	578
Natives - - - - -	218,324
Against	
Whites - - - - -	469
Natives - - - - -	127,707

given in the returns of 1875, the last occasion on which a census was taken in Basutoland. No aid extraneous to the territory was employed, and the Basutoland officers, who did their work with zeal and judgment, received much assistance from Letsie and the minor Chiefs, many of whom took an active part in collecting statistics.

(17.) The Chiefs have continued to render valuable assistance in recovering lost stock, bringing offenders to justice and otherwise maintaining order.

(18.) The exceptional rainfall this year has done much damage to the roads. By constant labour and supervision the main roads have been kept passable, but it will take time and considerable expenditure to restore them to order. The road from Quthing to Ongeluk's Nek is further advanced. Many necessary or useful public works have been completed or provided for, including public offices at Maseru.

Sub-Inspectors' quarters at Teyatyaneng; Medical Officers' quarters at Mafeteng and at Mohalies Hoek; hospital at Mafeteng; dispensaries at Mohalies Hoek and Leribe; constables' quarters at Mafeteng and Quthing; a house for accommodation of Chiefs and headmen visiting Maseru; portion of border fence; stabling at the Residency, Maseru, and elsewhere; alteration of Court House Mafeteng, &c.

(19.) The medical reports show a satisfactory state of health in the territory. In February last the Church of South Africa withdrew its support from the Medical Mission established at Mohalies

Hoek. This had been always supplemented by a Government grant for the purchase of medicines, &c. On the resignation of the doctor in charge it was considered undesirable that an important work should fall through, and a Government medical officer was appointed to fill the place. There are now four medical officers in charge of six free dispensaries. To these cottage hospitals or huts for hospital accommodation are gradually being added. The returns furnished by the medical officers show to what an extent their services are appreciated by the Basuto.

(20.) The missionaries of the various denominations show undiminished zeal in their good work. The Government grants in aid of education entrusted to them appear to be satisfactorily and economically administered. I regret to have to report the loss the Paris Evangelical Mission Society has sustained through the death of one of its experienced and valued members, Mr. Du Voisin, and through ill-health, I trust but for a time, of Dr. Casalis, head of the Morija, a training school, the marked success of which institutions I have mentioned on previous occasions. A separate report on the subject of education is forwarded herewith.*

(21.) I have much pleasure in reporting most favourably on the officers serving under me. The satisfactory state of the country fiscal, and otherwise, testifies to the way they have done their work.

I append a summary of general statistics.

I have, &c.

(Signed) M. CLARKE,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency
the High Commissioner for
South Africa.

Revenue.—(Local.)

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax - - -	19,611	16	0
Licenses - - - -	1,382	2	6
Fines and fees - - -	735	7	6
Postal revenue - - -	741	18	4
Miscellaneous - - -	1,312	17	7
	23,784	1	11

Licenses.

General trades - - - -	120
Hawkers - - - - -	147

Schools.

Number of schools - - -	113
Number of scholars on books - -	6,932
Amount expended on education	3,491*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*

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* *See* page 29.

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ANNUAL REPORT upon the DISTRICT of BEREA, BASUTOLAND, the Year ended 30th June 1891.

The unfortunate disputes as to Chieftainship rights between the Chiefs Masupha and Peeta, Masupha and Leshoharo, and Masupha and Theko, still exist, and during the past year a quarrel between Masupha and Patso Mato has so far developed that Patso has announced his intention of separating himself from Masupha, and Masupha has informed Patso that in that case he will be expected to leave the district. These matters have been from time to time referred to me, and I have taken what steps have been possible to preserve the peace and to induce Masupha as Chief of the district to deal with the cases justly and to recognise the rights of his juniors, and I have pointed out to Peeta, Leshahoro, and Patso that they should respect and obey Masupha as their Chief. The dispute between Masupha and Theko Letsie refers to rights at Thaba Bosigo, where Masupha has lived for many years, but which is really not in the Berea district. In all these cases there is the danger of conflict between the Chiefs, and the younger Chiefs seem to have the sympathy of the Paramount Chief Letsie in their resistance to Masupha.

In the administration of justice, and collection of revenue, I have received the necessary assistance from the Chiefs, though Masupha has been dilatory in enforcing the payment of tax among his people.

The officers of the Orange Free State Government have co-operated with me in all border cases. The Landdrost of Lady-Brand has taken action to enforce the laws of the Free State against the illicit sale of brandy to natives, and the amount of drunkenness in the district is inconsiderable.

The wheat and mealie crops of the past season have been fairly abundant. The wheat had promised particularly well, but continuous rains during harvest injured a portion of the crop. The Kaffir corn suffered much from disease and the crop has been very small. The cattle are not in good condition, and it appears that the time will come when the Basuto will have to reduce either the number of their stock or the extent of their cultivation.

The trade of the past twelve months has been smaller than during the previous year, but there is an increase in the number of trading stations. Wheat has been sold for 15*s.* per muid, Kaffir corn for 20*s.*, and mealies for 5*s.*

The principal firm of Arab traders has ceased business under circumstances which suggest the improbability of Asiatic storekeepers finding support in future to carry on trade in this country. The roads have required to be continually repaired, and I have found it necessary to keep large road-parties employed. The numbers of new stores has necessitated the opening of new roads. I forward a report of my inspection of schools. The schools of the French Protestant Mission Society in the district have sustained

a great loss in the death of the Reverend Louis Duvoisin, who had been for 28 years in charge of Berea Mission.

There is no medical officer in this district. The medical officer at Maseru has visited the neighbourhood to inquire into the reported prevalence of leprosy among the natives. There appear to be a number of cases of this disease.

The following returns are attached.

Report of school inspections.*
Annual return of revenue.
" hut tax.*
" trading licenses.
" passes issued.
" civil and criminal cases.
" lost stock reported.*

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Berea, 6th July 1891. Assistant Commissioner.

Annual Return of Revenue collected in Berea District, Basutoland, during the year ended 30th June 1891.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.		
	£	s.	d.
Hut tax - - - - - - -	2,925	0	0
Licenses - - - - - - -	285	0	0
Fees for transfer of licenses - - - -	0	15	0
Passes to remove grain - - - - -	1	2	6
Fees for registration of marriages - - -	1	5	0
Fees (stamps) - - - - - -	6	6	0
Judicial fines - - - - - -	53	14	6
Miscellaneous receipts - - - - -	13	6	3
	3,286	9	3

Of the above hut tax 375*l.* represents arrears of tax for previous years. For the past year tax has been paid on 5,100 huts.

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Berea, 6th July 1891. Assistant Commissioner.

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* Not printed.

BASUTOLAND. *Return of trading Licenses issued in Berea District, Basutoland, during the year ending 30th June 1891.*

To whom issued.	Name of Trading Station.
Tayab and Tar Mahomed -	Ramakaro's
G. Macaskell - - -	Puta's
J. B. Tully - - -	Mothloang's
Alexander Bain - -	Marthinn's
Tayab and Tar Mahomed -	Peetas.
S. J. Rhodes - - -	Senekal's.
S. J. Rhodes - - -	Sefekeng.
S. J. Rhodes - - -	Hangers Drift.
Tayab Anod & Co. - -	Teyateyaneng.
C. Stevens - - -	Teyateyaneng.
Maitin Bros. - - -	Teyateyaneng.
Maitin Bros. - - -	Berea.
C. Vincent & Co. - -	Lepokos.
C. Vincent & Co. - -	Phofalo's.
J. Bradshaw - - -	Malika's.
W. C. Pitout - - -	Sebalaba.
K. Macaskell - - -	Kena.
P. W. Harris & Co. - -	Peeta's.
Kassina Mahomed - -	Sefekeng.
Ismail Anod - - - -	Fakus.
Tayab Anod & Co. - -	Nthlama's.
A. Sterley - - -	Thabo Bosigo.
M. Duncan - - -	Makoadis.
Tayab Anod & Co. - -	Lepoko's.

During the year the following hawkers' licenses, &c., have been issued :—

35 monthly hawkers' licenses.
7 free „ „
9 passes to remove grain from Basutoland.

Return of passes issued at the office of the Assistant Commissioner of Berea, during the year ended 30th June 1891.

Passes issued to persons leaving Basutoland in search of work- - - - - -	1,954
Passes issued to persons leaving Basutoland for other purposes - - - - -	3,630
Total of passes issued - - - - -	5,584

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

Berea, 6 July 1891.

Return of Civil and Criminal Cases heard in the Court of the Assistant Commissioner of Berea during the year ended 30th June 1891.

Civil cases - - - -	4
Criminal cases - - - -	0
Contravention of trading regulations	2
Contravention of liquor regulations -	1
Theft - - - -	7
Assault - - - -	2
Cases dismissed - - -	1

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

Berea, 6 July 1891.

LERIBE DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1891.

General.

I.—The past year has been an unusually disturbed one in this district. In the beginning of August 1890 the followers of Motsoeni, assisted by some of Jonathan's people, and headed by Motsoeni's younger brother Masupha, crossed the boundary line made by Government at Buthabuthe and cut down and removed the reeds belonging to Joel Molapo at that place in defiance of the remonstrances of the officer in charge of Buthabuthe Station. After some delay Jonathan went to Motsoene's, to whose village the reeds had been taken; and after some show of an inquiry a few bundles of the reeds were carried back to Joel's side of the boundary, and left there by Jonathan's men. As the quantity returned was about a twentieth part of what Joel was entitled to, and as Jonathan's men after throwing the bundles down

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rode their horses over them and trampled them into the mud, this case cannot be regarded as satisfactorily settled. No punishment was inflicted on Motsoeni, or on the persons who cut the reeds.

II.—The encroachments of Lelingoana, Chief of the refuge Bathlokoa, on the rights of the sons of Molapo, which I referred to in my last Annual Report, have continued during the past year. These aggressions being committed in the name of the Paramount Chief, it is difficult to check them, except through Letsie himself. If the sons of Molapo would work unanimously in this matter, it might be possible to bring pressure to bear on Letsie, but it is difficult to get them to combine.

III.—A dispute, to which I referred in my last year's Report as having been originated by Lerothodi, came to a head in September 1890; when, after some fighting between herdsmen at the cattle-posts in Mechachaneng, Joel attacked Matela in force, and swept off a large number of cattle, and Matela took refuge in the Free State. Jonathan was persuaded to remain quiet and to await orders from head-quarters; but some of his younger brothers went up with armed parties to Matela's assistance; and to avoid passing through Joel's country they crossed the Caledon River and went up through the Free State. A good deal of looting took place among the deserted villages, in which Jonathan's men were implicated. The Acting Resident Commissioner came to Leribe to inquire into the causes of this disturbance, and the case was adjudicated on by him. He was accompanied by Lerothodi Bereng and Setha, representatives of the Paramount Chief, with an armed force.

IV.—An attempt was made in March last, by the Headman Makotoko, to dispute the rights of Government to the reserve at Thlotse Heights. Jonathan disavowed his action, and the result of his raising the question was that the Government's claim to the land in question was confirmed by Jonathan; it having been originally given to the Government by the late Chief Molapo.

V.—Considerable jealousy exists between the two principal sons of the late Chief Lesaoana, the younger of whom, Seshope, lives in this district, while the elder, Peete, resides in the Berea district. Lesaoana, in his lifetime, resided in Leribe with the bulk of his followers, who, in his old age, were governed for him mainly by Seshophe, while Peete had charge of his immediate followers who lived with him in Berea district. Since his father's death, Peete has tried to exercise authority as his successor over the people living in this district, many of whom still acknowledge Seshophe, and the consequent bad feeling is likely to lead to disturbances in that part of the district before long.

VI. There appears to be some movement towards friendly intercourse between the Chiefs Jonathan and Joel, which should be encouraged, if possible, as it is the first indication of the kind which has showed itself for several years. On the other hand, some of the minor Chiefs in the district are trying to revive old

claims against one another, dating in some cases from the time of the Gun War (1880–81), which might better be allowed to die out.

VII.—Motsoeni has lately made another attempt to assert his claim to his father's old village in Joel's ward, threatening, in the presence of the Government Interpreter at Buthabuthe, to send his cattle over and take posession of the place in question. Any such unauthorised act might lead to a disturbance, as Joel is strongly opposed to the Buthabuthe line being interfered with.

Population.

The census was taken this year and the population was found to be nearly 48,000. This is slightly under what was previously estimated.

Education.

A report on the Government-aided schools in the district was sent in on the 25th instant.

Commercial.

Trade has not generally been brisk, on account of the European traders being undersold by the Arabs and Coolies, who were for some time selling goods under cost price. Their supporters, from Natal, have now interfered to prevent this, and many of the Arabs are leaving the country.

Grain appears to be plentiful, there having been no early frosts, and most of the crops having had time to ripen. Prices will probably be low this season in consequence.

Public Works.

In consequence of the unusually large rainfall since the 1st January the roads are much washed out, and very swampy in places, and it has been difficult, even with constant attention, to keep them in passible order.

New public offices are nearly completed at Thlotse Heights, where a public dispensary has also been built, and officers' quarters were finished early in the year. New quarters for the officers stationed at Buthabuthe are much needed, the present buildings being mostly of green bricks, and having suffered from the continual rain during the last six months.

Medical.

The report of the district medical officer is attached.

BASUTOLAND.

Police.

The police detachment stationed here is in an efficient state as to both discipline and equipment.

The lost stock report shows :—

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not Traced.	Recovered.
Horses - -	8	4	4	4
Cattle - -	28	8	20	8
Sheep - -	1	1	—	—

NOTE.—The sheep was slaughtered by herd boys, who were convicted and punished.

Crime.

The criminal cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court during the year are as follows :—

Contravention of pass regulations - -	3
Theft - - - - -	8
Assault - - - - -	2
Resisting police - - - -	1
Creating disturbance - - - -	2
Rescue of impounded stock - - -	2
Contravention of trading regulations - -	2
Store breaking - - - -	1
Breach of prison discipline - - -	2

Revenue.

As shown by the return attached, this year's revenue compares favourably with previous years, the amount of hut tax collected, 4,586*l.* 16*s.* 0*d.*, being more than the total revenue in all branches collected last year. Licenses show some falling off, owing, probably, to the wet season, hawkers being unable to cross the flooded rivers with their waggons.

Heads of revenue collected are as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax - - - -	4,586	16	0
Licenses - - - -	397	17	6
Fines - - - -	49	17	6
Special receipts - - -	166	16	6
Fees - - - -	3	4	6
Fees for registering marriages -	0	10	0
Fees for transfer of licenses -	1	7	6
	5,206	9	6

Passes.

A return* of passes issued to natives during the year is attached.

Relations with Bordering States.

Our intercourse with the Orange Free State continues to be of a friendly nature. The Free State Border officials rendered valuable aid in tracing out cattle concealed in that territory during the disturbance between Joel and Matela, and generally they have manifested a wish to assist us when it has been in their power to do so.

(Signed) S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

Leribe, 30th June 1891.

Leribe, June 30, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that the public health in this district has been good during the year. There has been no true epidemic fever as during the previous summer, a few cases only having made their appearance in camp and in the surrounding villages. This healthier state of the Thlotse Heights camp is probably due to the heavy rains, which have done much to diminish the amount of dirt and rubbish usually lying between natives' huts.

The number of patients having attended the public dispensary has been 3,101 during the past year, that is, from July 1890 to 30th June 1891.

About 10 per cent. of attendants were suffering from various venereal diseases, the most common being the syphilitic secondary sores, so-called mocaula, and gonorrhœa.

Gonorrhœa is very prevalent among the police force, half of the men suffering chronically from it.

Syphilis, though also prevalent in the district, seems to be less virulent, natives having of late been in the custom of getting treated at the dispensary, or buying the necessary drugs for the

* Not printed.

same purpose, and thus greatly diminishing the danger of contagion. Children are more affected by it than adults, and though commonly inheriting the malady, they are undoubtedly the means of spreading it, a child getting mocaula from another and infecting the parents afterwards. Mocaula mostly spreads by the secondary sores.

Surgical cases are numerous, 161 cases having been operated during the year; 100 cases being minor ones, the remaining 61 requiring serious operations. The report on leprosy will follow.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. CASALIS,
Medical Officer.

The Assistant Commissioner,
Leribe.

ANNUAL REPORT upon that part of the LERIBE DISTRICT, called BUTHA BUTHE.

During the earlier months of the past official year the sub-district was in a very disturbed state. In July 1890 the feeling between Joel and Matela was more than usually unfriendly.

On the 5th of August Motsoeni sent his men to cut all the reeds in the reed-bed under Butha Buthe Station.

As half this reed-bed belongs to Joel there was a great deal of excitement, but no fighting took place.

After much trouble Motsoeni was made to bring back some of the reeds; but as only some five or six bundles were restored Joel was, and still is, very dissatisfied with the settlement. During August there was a good deal of trouble between the herd-boys of Joel and Matela in the Machachaneng, and about other matters up there. On the 28th of August the Acting Resident Commissioner, Mr. Lagden, accompanied by Mr. Barrett and myself, left for the Machachaneng to meet the President of the Free State, and Mr. Lagden and the President personally inspected the disputed boundary on our northern border.

During the early part of September the feeling between Joel and Matela was growing more and more hostile, till on the 19th fighting broke out, and continued for some days, Matela being beaten, some seven or eight men killed, and many of his cattle taken by Joel. Various messengers arrived, sent by the Acting Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief, and further fighting was stopped. On October 1st Mr. Lagden and Lerothodi came up, a Pitso was held shortly afterwards, and on the fourth after hearing many statements Mr. Lagden gave his judgment. For a time there was, of course, a good deal of friction between all parties; this, however, has considerably lessened, and there has been no further outbreak.

During the year only one case has come under my notice in which a man was charged with practising witchcraft.

The hut tax for the sub-district has again exceeded that of the previous year by 28*l*.

This is a very small increase, but some of Joel's men have been quite unable to pay up to the present, as their villages and grain, as well as ploughs, were totally destroyed by Jonathan's people during the disturbances in September.

These people, however, have been ordered to pay as soon as they reap their crops.

Under other heads of revenue, the general traders' licences show an increase, but there has been a great falling off in the number of hawkers' licences taken out, due, I think, to the exceptionally bad weather we have had.

It has been very difficult to keep the roads in good order owing to the heavy rains. For a long time I was unable to get labour, and the roads in consequence got very bad. I have now a good party at work. There are four schools in the sub-district, one under the Church of England and three under the French Protestants; at present there are 152 pupils on the books.

My relations with the Free State officials on the border continue good, and they afford me all the help they can.

(Signed) W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector.

MAFETENG.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1891.

I.—I entered upon the duties of Assistant Commissioner, Mafeteng District, on the 1st September 1891.

II.—Few matters of political importance affecting this district came under my notice until February 1891, when the young Chief Griffith Lerothodi was implicated in brandy smuggling from the Orange Free State, and an affray occurred between his messengers and a police patrol. Subsequently Griffith created a disturbance in Mafeteng village and several policemen sustained injuries while endeavouring to arrest the rioters. I at once reported the circumstance to the Resident Commissioner, who promptly came to Mafeteng and arranged for the arrest and trial of Griffith and his companions. The Resident Commissioner sentenced Griffith to 12 months' imprisonment with hard labour, and seven (7) of his followers, who were foremost in the disturbance, paid fines of five (5) head of cattle each. This action of Griffith (who is of high rank) might have led to serious complications between Government and the Basuto tribe if prompt measures had not been taken to enforce the law. Disputes exist between some Chiefs concerning rights to certain arable and grazing ground, but such matters are receiving attention, and will doubtless be satisfactorily arranged.

III.—Police patrols have been constantly on the border adjoining the Orange Free State, and every effort was made to suppress crime. The facilities offered to the Basuto for purchasing

BASUTOLAND.

spirituous liquor in the town of Wepener and at illicit canteens on the Free State border has been very marked during the past year and fifty-eight (58) persons were arrested and prosecuted in the Assistant Commissioner's Court for contravening the Basutoland Liquor Ordinance.

Lost or stolen stock traced into this district has in every case been recovered or the owners compensated.

IV.—Parties of labourers with practical overseers in charge have been employed repairing the roads, but on account of the almost incessant rainfall during the last five months the work has not progressed satisfactorily, and it has been impossible to do more than just keep the roads open for vehicle traffic.

The public offices have been thoroughly renovated and some additional accommodation built.

The village fountain was covered in, a windlass erected, and the water is now pure and good.

The outside of the Residency underwent general repair, and a stone wall enclosing the grounds is now completed.

A hospital hut for the accommodation of patients has been erected and a cottage for the Resident Medical Officer is authorised.

Some necessary repairs were done to the police stables.

V.—The free dispensary was well attended and the medical work in this district is most satisfactory.

I attach a report from the medical officer.

VI.—There are seventeen (17) general trading stations in Mafeteng District. Traders complain that business has not been brisk when compared with the previous year's transactions, but this is probably more due to keen competition than want of money amongst the Basuto.

Good seed wheat has been distributed.

The following were the average prices paid for produce and stock during the year:—

Mealies	8*s.* per muid
Kaffir corn	12*s.* 6*d.* „
Wheat	13*s.* 6*d.* „
Barley	7*s.* „
Oats	7*s.* „
Basuto tobacco	6*d.* per lb.
Wool, F.G.	4½*d.* „
Hides (S. D.)	3*d.* „
do. wet	1½*d.* „
Mohair	5*d.* „
Horned cattle (average)	80*s.* each
Sheep and goats („)	10*s.* „

Fair prices have also been paid for Basuto ponies.

Very little Kafir corn was reaped, but the other grain crops were good, although a considerable quantity of wheat was damaged by rain.

VII.—The police detachment under my command continues to perform excellent service. The total strength is, viz.:—

1 Sub-inspector.
1 Native officer.
3 European constables.
33 Rank and file.

VIII.—The census return of Mafeteng district taken last April showed a population of 40,908 persons, 9,450 occupied dwellings, 13,002 horses, 64,198 horned cattle, 279 waggons and 2,144 ploughs.

IX.—Religious and educational work continues to make satisfactory progress under the superintendence of the clergymen of the various missionary societies.

Thirty (30) missionary schools, one Government school, and one undenominational school were inspected, and I have furnished a separate report concerning them.

X.—The following civil and criminal cases were heard in the Assistant Commissioner's Court:—

Civil actions - - - - -	2
Contravening Sec. VII. Trading Regulations Liquor Ordinance - - - -	58
Resisting police - - - - -	9
Assault - - - - -	2
Forgery - - - - -	1
Thefts - - - - -	10

XI.—The revenue for the year amounted to 3,839*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*, and shows an increase of 508*l.* 14*s.* on the receipts for 1889–90.

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner,
Mafeteng.

Revenue.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax - - - -	3,503	0	0
Fines - - - -	150	10	0
Licenses - - - -	174	0	0
Fees - - - -	4	12	0
Miscellaneous - - -	7	6	3
	3,839	8	3

BASUTOLAND.

Through the sudden illness of the medical officer lately at Mafeteng the medical report of that district is unavoidably postponed, and will be sent as soon as possible.

G. Y. LAGDEN.

Mafeteng, Basutoland,
June 24, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that during the year ending the 30th June 1891 the total number of cases attended at the Mafeteng Government dispensary amounted to 7,616, made up as follows:

New cases - - - -	4,150
Old cases - - - -	2,316
Hospital cases - - - -	1,150
Total number of attendances. - -	7,616

Of the 4,150 new cases, syphilis is responsible for 549 and gonorrhœa for 98. From this it will be seen that about one case in every seven was of a venereal nature. The figures speak for themselves. Of the remaining cases, dyspepsia accounts for 563, and rheumatism and bronchitis figure frequently, especially during the winter months.

The comparative absence of phthisis pulmonalis is very remarkable, and testifies to the suitability of the climate for this complaint. Several epidemics of typhoid fever of a modified type have broken out at the native villages during the year. The cause, I think, is in almost every case a polluted water supply. A few cases of diphtheria which have been seen have probably originated in the same way.

The necessity for more suitable hospital accommodation has been much felt. The two rooms now nearly completed will, I hope, meet our wants in this respect.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. M. EATON,
Medical Officer, Mafeteng.

Report for the Year ended 30th June 1891. BASUTOLAND.

Office of the Assistant Commissioner,
Maseru, July 4, 1891.

No events of any political importance have occurred during the past year.

I have pleasure in reporting that all the Chiefs continue to render me substantial assistance when called upon, especially in the matter of tracing stock stolen from the neighbouring territories and in arresting and bringing the thieves to justice. Indeed in several cases stock has been recovered in Basutoland before any report of the loss has been made at this office.

Relations with the neighbouring Free State authorities are most satisfactory, and we cordially co-operate to preserve order along the border.

Very few cases of crime have come to my notice. Theft from the Free State seems to be at a minimum, and most of the stock traced to Basutoland has been recovered. Two cases of homicide were reported during the year; in the one instance the accused unfortunately escaped before he could be arrested.

The following cases were tried in this Court:—

Theft - - - - -	7
Assault - - - - -	2
Indecent assault - - - -	1
Contravention of trading regulations - -	1

The Kafir corn crop in this district was attacked at an early stage by a blight and almost entirely destroyed; however, the natives have reaped a plentiful harvest of mealies, so no famine need be feared.

Prices realised for produce have not been as high as those of the preceding year.

Native labour has been plentiful in the country. There has, however, been a considerable decrease in the number of labourers leaving the territory as compared with the year 1889–90.

Passes have been issued to 2,792 men to leave Basutoland in search of work, and 3,225 for other purposes.

Trade has been good, and seven new general traders' licences have been issued. There are now 23 trading stations in this district.

Twenty-two hawkers' licences were issued.

All the waggon roads in the district are in very bad order owing to the abnormal rainfall, which has continued far into the winter, and until the weather becomes settled we cannot hope to be able to thoroughly repair them.

The schools have all been visited by Government officers and show satisfactory progress.

The population of the district, as shown by the census taken in April last, is 45,402 souls.

BASUTOLAND.

The general revenue of the district shows an increase over that of 1889–90 of 1,436*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.* Under the head hut tax there is an increase of 465*l.* Arrear hut tax paid amounted to 621*l.*

The following are the amounts paid under the various heads:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax - - - -	4,033	0	0
Licenses - - - -	282	2	6
Fines - - - -	413	7	0
Fees - - - -	39	0	0
Special receipts - - -	165	16	7
Ferry dues - - -	5[illegible]	17	6
Postal revenue - - -	741	18	4
Sale of unclaimed stock - -	14	0	0
	6,233	1	11

I attach the report of the medical officer.

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

SIR, Maseru, June 30, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to report that the health of this district has been good during the preceding year. There have been no epidemics and very few cases of zymotic disease. The number of attendances at the hospital was 7,530 compared with 5,397 last year, showing an increase of over 2,000. 6,430 were new cases. Owing to the heavy rains and cold the attendance fell off towards the end of the year.

The number of cases of mocaula treated at the dispensary was 705 compared with 682 last year, the respective percentages being 10 and 12 of the total number of all cases seen at the dispensary, showing a decrease if anything, and the disease was of a milder form. There were only 22 cases of tertiary syphilis and 14 of phthisis compared with 48 last year.

During the summer months there were a great many cases of ophthalmia, and in the last few months a few mild cases of varicella.

The new hospital and dispensary have proved a great gain both to the patients and medical officer in charge. There were 44 in-patients during the year, 27 dismissed cured, 11 improved, 3 in *statu quo*, and 3 remain in hospital.

With regard to leprosy, I consider that the disease is increasing and further measures should be adopted to check its progress and stamp it out. There were 12 cases which attended the dispensary from Maseru district, while I have heard of several others. In the Berea district I saw 25 cases personally. I think that the

exact number and locality of every case in each district should be ascertained, and that all cases which can be moved be brought to some quarantined location within a reasonable distance of the medical officer and there isolated and kept under supervision, while all cases which cannot be moved a great distance be isolated from their neighbours, as is already done in many instances by the Basuto, especially on being informed of the contagious and loathsome character of the disease. The majority of cases I have seen have been spread by natives who had contracted the disease in the Cape Colony or Free State.

The health of the prisoners in the gaol has been good. There was one death of a prisoner from cerebral disease.

I have, &c.

(Signed) S. RADFORD SAVAGE, M.B., &c.,
Medical Officer.

The Acting Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Cornet Spruit District, June 1891.

I.—On the whole the political position of the district may be considered fairly satisfactory. With but few exceptions peace and quietness have been maintained during the past year.

On the 11th of August last the Chief Makhúbe died, and is succeeded by his eldest son Ntabanyane, who has given satisfaction in every way.

During the same month a dispute arose in the Bamohali ward as to the right of lands between the Chiefs Mako Sekake and Lebona, in which some huts were burned by the latter; the affair was settled by the head of the clan, the Chief Molomo. On the 27th of August a quarrel of rather a serious nature occurred in the Batang ward between the houses of the Chiefs Mokhle and Monyakhe, in which guns were used, one man being killed and one slightly wounded, and two horses shot. This quarrel was also over the right of certain lands. The matter was dealt with by the Acting Resident Commissioner, Mr. G. Y. Lagden, on the 27th of September, the Paramount Chief Letsie being represented by the Chiefs Lerothodi and Setha Mateta.

It was shown that both the Chiefs Mokhele and Matletle had acted indiscreetly and illegally.

The Chief Mokhele was fined 120 head of cattle and the Chief Matletle Monyakhe 80 head of cattle. The Chief Lerothodi was requested by the Acting Resident Commissioner to inquire into and settle the land dispute.

On the 20th of October the Batang Chiefs and principal headmen assembled at this office, and the Acting Resident Commissioner's

judgment was read to them publicly, with which all appeared satisfied, and the ward has since been quiet.

On the 21st of October Sub-Inspector Boyes returned from the Berea district, where he had been on temporary duty since the middle of August.

On the 19th of November a combined court was held at Makebinyane's by the Assistant Commissioners of Mafeteng and Mohales Hoek and the Chief Lerothodi, Chief Seiso and Setha Matete being also present; the object of the court was to inquire into a quarrel among the Bamohali.

The case was settled and the guilty parties fined. This was also a dispute over lands. A full report of the proceedings was sent in.

On the 21st of November the Chiefs Lerothodi, and Seiso, and Setha Matete called a Pitso of the Bamohali at Mphurane to discuss the question of a boundary line between the Chiefs Mako Sekake and Lebona, when the Chief Lerothodi declared that no line was necessary as it would only give rise to quarrelling in the future. I was present at the Pitso and concurred in what was done.

In the same month it was reported that small-pox had broken out in the Chief Ntabanyane's ward. Dr. Young was sent out, and reported one case, which he treated successfully, and the disease did not spread.

On the 10th of December a pont was launched on the Cornet Spruit at Meyer's drift, the main entrance to the district from the Orange Free State; it has proved a great boon to the trading and travelling public.

In February the Chief Thamane, one of the Baphuti Chiefs, died, and is succeeded by his brother Mokhoele.

During the months of April and May minor disputes occurred and were settled locally.

II.—Relations with the neighbouring States continue on a favourable footing.

Smuggling has apparently greatly diminished, especially the illicit sale of liquor, which has greatly diminished the committal of crime.

III.—A census of the territory was taken last April, the returns for this district showing a population of 34,391 natives, 73 European or white.

IV.—The season since last October has been an exceptionally wet one. The crops have been fairly good. Wheat was abundant, and there was an average crop of Kaffir corn and mealies, the latter crops were very good in the mountains. There is a ready sale for all kinds of grain and fair prices are obtained.

V.—Education and religion are making fair progress. There are 11 aided schools in this district, all of which lately have been inspected and reported upon. These schools are all in connexion with the Paris Evangelical Mission Society.

The Church of England services are conducted by a resident clergyman, the Rev. M. A. Reading, who holds services in the court room at this station, and in the native church at the Chief

Potsane's village; he also pays periodical visits to Mafeteng and Quthing, where he also holds services.

VI. Trade in the district is steadily increasing, and the traders are apparently doing well, money being more plentiful than usual. The whole of the taxes in the district have been paid in coin.

General trading stations - - -	15
Hawkers' licenses - - - -	7
Dam licenses - - - -	2

VII.—The free dispensary has been much appreciated, and done a great deal to improve the state of the public health. Dr. Young resigned in January, and has been succeeded by Dr. Long, from Mafeteng, who finds the work so much increased that a larger dispensary has been asked for.

VIII.—Only two cases of theft have been tried during the past year, and as there have been frequent patrols, this fact speaks well for the honesty of the district.

IX.—A large number of natives have obtained passes to proceed to the gold fields and diamond fields as will be seen from the return of passes* issued annexed hereto.

Some difficulty has been experienced in getting labourers for road work, the natives refusing the usual 1*s.* a day and demanding 1*s.* 6*d.* a day.

X.—Owing to the continuous rains since October last the roads in the district are much washed. Road parties are at present at work, and I hope to have the roads in good repair very shortly. The pont on the Cornet Spruit which was launched in December last has been continually at work up to the present, and has been most useful to traffic.

XI—*Revenue.*

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax - - - -	2,933	0	0
Licenses - - - -	156	7	6
Fines and fees - - -	8	12	6
Miscellaneous - - -	113	10	9
Total -	3,211	10	9

(Signed) J. W. BOWKER,
Mohales Hoek, 10 July 1891. Assistant Commissioner.

* Not printed.

BASUTOLAND.

Office of the Assistant Commissioner of Quthing,
June 30, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit my report on the affairs of this district for the year 1890–91.

On the 1st September 1890, Mr. Kennan handed over the district to me by order of the Acting Resident Commissioner. Since the report furnished by Mr. Kennan last year nothing of political importance has occurred in Quthing.

In the latter end of May a proposal was made by the Cape Colonial Government to build a fence on the border between Quthing and Barkly East, with a view to prevent stock thefts. I have furnished you already with my report on the subject.

Shortly after Christmas an epidemic broke out among the cattle of this district, which caused a considerable mortality among them. The disease had been generally taken to be that known as "Red Water."

Owing to this outbreak the Colonial Government caused a portion of Herschel District to be placed in quarantine, with a view to preventing infected cattle from entering or leaving it.

This quarantine, which virtually during the time it was enforced cut Quthing District off from its market at Aliwal North, caused a good deal of annoyance and loss to the traders resident here.

The rainfall registered at Moyeni for the year has been exceptionally heavy, amounting approximately to 43 inches.

The Orange River has been impassable during nearly the whole year, and the Pont at Siaka Drift has proved a great boon to travellers.

The Ongeluk's Nek Road has been further advanced some distance, and has now nearly reached the point where after crossing the Quthing River it will ascend the main range. A portion of the road constructed was through difficult country.

The transport roads, I regret to say, have throughout the year been severely damaged by the heavy rains referred to above, one or more road parties have been continually engaged in repairing them, and they are now in fair order.

The wet weather has also caused much damage to crops, especially in the upper portions of the district. I estimate that the district will average considerably under the usual grain crop.

The current prices at present are:—

Wheat - - - -	12*s.* to 14*s.*	per muid.
Mealies - - - -	3*s.* to 5*s.*	„
Kafir corn - - -	6*s.* to 8*s.*	„

Stock is fetching fair prices.

There are at present ten French Mission Schools in this district receiving Government aid, all of which have been inspected lately. My report has already been forwarded to you.

A Government night school has been opened in Moyeni Court House for men and boys living on or near the Government Reserve, and it has hitherto been attended with success.

There are eight trading stations in the district, and an application for a ninth is at present under consideration

The following civil and criminal cases have been heard during the year in the Assistant Commissioner's Court.

Divorce - - - - -	3
Ordinary civil - - - - -	1
Theft - - - - - -	4
Assault - - - - -	1
Contravention of pass regulation -	1

The detachment of police stationed in Quthing continues effective, and consists of:—

1 European sub-inspector.
2 „ constables.
30 native non-commissioned officers and men, all of whom are mounted.

The total revenue collected in the district during the year amounted to 2,007*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*, of which 1,631*l.* was hut tax.

During March and April a census of the population of the district was taken. The returns showed that the population of the district amounted to 19,500 souls, the sexes being almost equally divided.

During the first half of the year a free dispensary was held once a fortnight. In January, however, Dr. Young having resigned the dispensary was closed until the commencement of June, when it was re-opened by Dr. Long, whose report I attach hereto.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. WROUGHTON.
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

Revenue.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax - - - -	1,631	0	0
Licenses - - - -	86	0	0
Special receipts - - -	288	3	9
Fees - - - -	1	18	6
Total - -	2,007	2	3

Basutoland.

SIR, Moyeni, July 2, 1891.

I HAVE the honour herewith to report on the medical work of this station. I regret that owing to the dispensary having been closed so long and only re-opened at the beginning of June 1891 there is but little work to report upon. The dispensary was open during four days in June, and 86 patients received attendance and medicine. 32 of these were surgical cases (including 12 cases of syphilis and five of other venereal diseases) the remainder being medical cases (mostly slight ailments).

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD C. LONG,
Medical Officer.

The Assistant Commissioner,
Moyeni.

Enclosure 2 in No. 1.

Sir H. B. LOCH to Sir M. CLARKE.

Government House, Cape Town,
July 31, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 21st instant, reporting on the progress made by the territory under your administration during the past year.

I have read this report with much pleasure, and I desire that you will express to Mr. Lagden and your officers my high sense of the good service rendered by them.

I desire also that you will convey to the missionaries of all denominations my appreciation of the valuable services they have rendered to the Basuto people.

I notice with regret that leprosy is spreading, and I suggest that you should consider with the Paramount Chief and your medical officers the best means for securing isolation of these cases.

The inter-tribal quarrels amongst the Chiefs are a matter of regret, and I desire that you will inform the Chiefs that whilst I am glad to learn that the patriotism and loyalty of the superior Chiefs has prevented serious collision, I regret that these quarrels should exist and that the chiefs and rulers whose duty it is to set an example to the people should display a disposition to take the law into their own hands.

The courts are open, and the Chiefs should be the first to show an example to their followers by seeking and accepting a judicial decision of their disputes.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,
Governor and High Commissioner.

His Honour
The Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

No. 2. BASUTOLAND.

Sir H. B. LOCH to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Cape Town,
August 3, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, the enclosed despatch from the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland containing his report on the subject of education in that territory for the year ended 30th June last.

I would observe with reference to the last paragraph of Sir Marshall Clarke's despatch that arrangements have been made by which an inspection of the schools in Basutoland will be undertaken in December next by the Rev. Canon Woodroofe, one of the staff of school inspectors in the Cape Colony.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,
Governor and High Commissioner.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 2.

RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, Basutoland, to His Excellency HIGH COMMISSIONER.

Resident Commissioner's Office, Basutoland,
July 21, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report on the subject of education in Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1891.

The whole of the education, with the exception of the undenominational schools, is under the supervision of missionaries attached to the various societies established in Basutoland.

2. The distribution of the Government grants in aid of schools is as follows:—

	£
Paris Evangelical Mission Society -	2,550
Roman Catholic - - - -	475
English Church of South Africa - -	179
Undenominational - - -	83
Industrial training outside Basutoland -	127

The total number of schools in Basutoland is 115; of these, 101 belong to the Paris Evangelical Mission Society, seven to the Roman Catholic, five to the Church of South Africa.

The amounts granted by Government are proportioned to the number of pupils and the education offered.

3. In the year under report there appear 6,932 on the nominal attendance roll, as against 6,442 last year. The mean average attendance was 4,560 against 4,245 last year.

4. The education offered appears suitable to the wants of the people. The general wish expressed by the parents that their children should be taught English is complied with in the majority of schools.

At the missionary centres a higher standard of education is offered than elsewhere; schools at such centres are either taught by members of the mission, or are under continuous European superintendence. The training school at Morija, the head-station of the Paris Evangelical Mission Society, offers a sound English and Sesuto education. The staff is composed of well-qualified Europeans, whose success is testified to by the results of the Cape Colonial test examinations at which Basutoland candidates are admitted.

This institution provides native teachers for the Society's schools throughout Basutoland.

5. There is a growing desire for instruction in trades which Government is anxious as far as possibly to satisfy.

At the school of the Paris Evangelical Mission Society at Quthing 23 pupils are taught stone-cutting, brickmaking, building and carpentry. At Morija 17 boys are taught printing and book-binding. In the school of the same society at Thaba Bosigo 33 girls receive instruction in household duties, washing and needle-work. Fair progress during the year is reported.

The industrial school recently established by Bishop Gaughran at Roma has experienced difficulties which appear inseparable from the beginning of such undertakings, but it now appears fairly started, and will, I have no doubt, prove of value to the country.

Instruction is given in stone-cutting, building, carpentry, turning, shoemaking, and tailoring. The girls' school at Roma under the exclusive management of the sisterhood is very interesting; girls are taught, in addition to the usual subjects, carding, spinning, weaving, and dressmaking.

Satisfactory accounts are received of 16 boys placed by Government to learn trades at the Lovedale Institute, Cape Colony, and at the Trappist Monastery in Natal.

6. Schools receiving Government aid are from time to time inspected by Government officers, who examine the pupils, check the attendance rolls, and at the end of each year submit reports from their various districts. The reports this year are on the whole very satisfactory.

7. Owing to exceptional stress of work in its Educational Department the Cape Colonial Government has been so far unable

to afford us the loan of a qualified school inspector as suggested by the Secretary of State. An independent opinion on the work which is being done, and the system in operation, would be alike appreciated by the Government and the societies.

I have, &c.

(Signed) M. CLARKE,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency
The High Commissioner
&c. &c. &c.,
Cape Town.

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No. 62.

BASUTOLAND.

[For Report for 1890-91, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 20.]

Sir H. B. LOCH to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Cape Town,
August 24, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch which I have received from the Resident Commissioner, reporting on the affairs of Basutoland during the past year.

I enclose also a copy of the reply which I have addressed to Sir M. Clarke.

It gives me much pleasure to again call attention to the able and efficient administration of Sir M. Clarke, and to the excellent service rendered by the officers of the Basutoland Administration generally.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,
Governor and High Commissioner.

The Right Hon.
The Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

Resident Commissioner's Office, Basutoland,
August 8, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency my report on British Basutoland for the year ending the 30th June 1892, together with reports from—

The Acting Assistant Commissioner, Berea.
Do. Maseru.
The Assistant Commissioner, Leribe.
Do. Mafeteng.
Do. Mohalies Hoek.
Do. Quthing.
The Medical Officer, Maseru.
Do. Leribe.
Do. Mafeteng.
Do. Mohalies Hoek.

I 74020. Wt. 10230.

BASUTOLAND. 1891-92.

(2.) Early in the year under report it was plain that the health of Letsie, the Paramount Chief, was failing, and certain individuals took advantage of his weakness to perpetrate, in his name, acts of oppression and injustice. In October, I had the opportunity of representing this and attendant circumstances to the High Commissioner, whom I met by appointment at Kokstadt, on his visit to Griqualand East, and, with his Excellency's sanction, I pointed out at the annual Pitso, held early in November, that it was unfair to hold a Chief in Letsie's state of health responsible for acts which might endanger the well-being of the community, and called on Lerothodi, the eldest son of Letsie, to relieve his father from burdens he was no longer fit to bear. At this time I received an assurance from the elder sons of Letsie, and from the Chiefs Jonathan Molapo and Masupha, that, in the event of Letsie's death, Lerothodi's claim to the succession would be undisputed.

On the 20th November Letsie died, and shortly afterwards I received a letter, signed by the 24 principal Chiefs in Basutoland, stating that, according to his position by birth, to Basuto custom, and to the implied wish of Letsie, Lerothodi ought to succeed his father, and requesting me to submit these views, through the High Commissioner, to the Queen. On the 6th January I received a telegram informing me that Her Majesty was graciously pleased to accede to the representation of the Basuto, and that Lerothodi was to be acknowledged as Paramount Chief in place of his father.

This decision was communicated to the Basuto at a National Pitso held at Maseru, on the 5th February, at which all the principal Chiefs in the country were present or represented.

(3.) In February a long outstanding dispute as to the right of ploughing on commonage in the mountains led to a collision between the people of Bereng and Maama Letsie; four men were killed, and a number of cattle captured. I directed Lerothodi, who had promptly stopped the fighting, to cause the cattle captured to be restored to their owners. He succeeded in doing this, in spite of much opposition and the luke-warm support of his following, and on the 6th April I, with Lerothodi and Masupha, tried Bereng and Maama for breach of the peace, found them both guilty, and fined the former 200 head of cattle, and the latter 100 head.

(4.) While this case was being tried, a disturbance, which threatened serious complication, broke out in the Berea district, between Lebese, a son of Masupha, and Peeta Ramanella. In compliance with orders sent by me in conjunction with the Paramount Chief, fighting stopped, and on the 4th June I and Lerothodi heard the case, and fined Lebese for breaking the peace.

Though some of the Chiefs continue on bad terms with their neighbours, no further fighting of any consequence has taken place.

(5.) The illness and subsequent death of Letsie and the opposition of some of the leading Chiefs seem to have for the present damped the aspirations of the Basuto for a consultative council.

(6.) The Chiefs continue to render valuable services in the detection and checking of crime and in the maintenance of order.

(7.) The mounted Basuto Police do their work satisfactorily. They are constantly employed patrolling the border, their principal duty being to check liquor smuggling, which is in some places, I regret to say, still prevalent. At Mafeteng the Assistant Commissioner during the past year convicted 84 persons charged with smuggling brandy into his district. The authorities of the Orange Free State have, I am informed, now taken stringent measures to stop the irregularities on their side, and I trust that by the cordial co-operation of the Basutoland and Orange Free State officials, a check will be given to a trade which induces crime and affects the security of property on both sides of the border.

(8.) On the 1st July 1891, Basutoland entered the Customs Union.

Owing to the credits for Custom dues being brought to account in the quarter following that during which they accrue, but three quarters of the Customs dues of the past financial year, amounting to 7,328*l.*, have been brought to account. The amount of Customs is below what was anticipated. This is due:—(1) To the large stocks in the hands of traders on the 1st July 1891; (2) To depression of trade, partly caused by a bad harvest consequent on the plague of locusts; (3) To the wide difference made between local and import values; (4) To non-recognition of the value of material in articles claimed as colonial manufactures.

(9.) Returns made by regular traders show as exports from Basutoland in the year 1891: 95,132 sacks of wheat, 66,327 sacks of mealies, 1,345 sacks of Kaffir corn, and 350 sacks of oats. The actual exports exceed these figures, as the quantity of grain removed from the country by hawkers has not been ascertained.

(10.) On the 1st June 1892 telegraphic communication was established between Maseru and Ladybrand, the Orange Free State and Basutoland sharing the cost. In addition to this, several useful public works have been provided for, including sub-inspector's quarters at Butha-Butha, medical officer's quarters at Leribe, portion of border fence, &c.

(11.) The number of patients treated shows how much the valuable services rendered by the medical officers are appreciated; the hospital accommodation has been increased during the year to meet urgent requirements.

(12.) The work of the missionaries of all denominations appears to be increasing satisfactorily; all the schools receiving aid (which are, with two exceptions, missionary schools) have been inspected by Government officers, whose reprots are generally favourable.

BASUTOLAND. 1891-92.

In compliance with a wish expressed by the Secretary of State, the Cape Colonial Government kindly lent the services for five weeks, from the 1st January, of a school inspector, the Reverend Canon Woodrooffe, who visited as many Basutoland schools as his time allowed. Canon Woodrooffe's letter submitting his detailed report accompanies this.

(13.) I have much pleasure in reporting favourably on the officers serving under me. The satisfactory state of the country and its finances is in a great measure due to the zeal and care with which they perform their several duties.

(14.) I append a summary of general statistics.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MARSHAL CLARKE,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency
the High Commissioner for
South Africa.

Local Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax - - - -	19,067	12	0
Licenses, fines, and ferry tolls -	2,545	3	8
Fees of Court - - -	70	6	1
Postal revenue - - -	757	3	6
Miscellaneous - - -	313	13	4
	22,753	18	7

Licenses.

General traders - - - - -	120
Hawkers - - - - - -	263

Amount expended on education - - 3,955*l.*

SIR, Mohalies Hoek, February 9, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to send herewith my Report of school inspections in Basutoland.

The standards under which the scholars are classified are those which have been adopted in the Cape Colony. For convenience' sake a summary of them is given:—

STANDARD I.—Reading and writing monosyllables; simple addition and the multiplication table to 6 times 12.

STANDARD II.—Easy reading and dictation; the simple rules of arithmetic.

STANDARD III.—Reading ordinary narrative and dictation; the compound rules of arithmetic (money); the definitions of geography and the map of Africa.

STANDARD IV.—Reading ordinary narrative fluently, and dictation; reduction and elementary vulgar fractions; geography of the world generally and of S. Africa specially; easy English grammar.

STANDARD V.—Vulgar and decimal fractions, practice, and proportion; outlines of history (England and the Cape Colony); geography, political and physical; English composition; handwriting. At the inspections in Standards I. and II., the Sesuto language has been accepted; in the other Standards the English language has been insisted on.

Previous to this inspection, the standards in use in the Cape Colony had not been adopted in any of these schools; they were therefore placed at some disadvantage, and they are not fully credited with the actual work that is going on. A large number of scholars who did not obtain any standard can read their own language fairly, and have some knowledge of writing it, but they have not learnt the arithmetic required.

In Standards IV. and V. passes of merit have been notified as "good."

The school buildings are as a rule satisfactory; the exceptions are so few, and so likely to be remedied, that they need not be taken into account.

The furniture is not in quality equal to the buildings; this is mainly owing to the high price of timber. If the Government were in a position to grant some aid in this direction, a great boon would be conferred.

The supply of school material is adequate.

The discipline and classification are fairly good. A not uncommon fault of teachers is their tendency to multiply classes, especially in the lower portion of their schools. This waste of time and power must be avoided.

The teachers themselves appear to be diligent in the performance of their duties. Some of them are well qualified for their posts; others are of very doubtful competency; but they are the best that can be obtained. In time we may reasonably expect to find a more ample supply of qualified men.

My report makes no special mention of singing. At nearly every inspection pieces were sung correctly which had been learnt on the tonic sol-fa system.

Of the schools inspected half are situated at centres where European missionaries reside, the other half are at out-stations; from some of these the scholars came to be examined at a school within travelling distance where an inspection was being held. Owing to the limited time at my disposal, this course appeared to

be a wise one. It enabled me to examine a much larger number of children than I could otherwise have inspected.

It was impossible for me to visit even every central station in the country; this would have been done, had the allotted time been sufficient.

According to the latest published returns the number of schools in Basutoland is 113, with an enrolment of 6,932 scholars. I have visited or inspected 37 schools, having a total of 2,906 scholars. Thus one-third of the schools and very nearly three-sevenths of the scholars have come under my observation.

The schools inspected are rather above the average of those in this territory, owing to the number of schools at central stations; those at out-stations being generally inferior; but among the latter I did not find one with which I was dissatisfied.

I have had some years of inspection experience in the Cape Colony, and have examined a large number of native schools annually, and my opinion of the Basutoland schools is favourable. If the adverse circumstances of late years be taken into consideration, the condition of these schools is more hopeful than would have been anticipated. At present they are somewhat below the average of those in other native territories, but they will advance; and it is highly probable that they will surpass the others, just as the Basuto race itself outstrips the other races in energy and intelligence. The great want is a supply of good teachers.

As regards the amount of the money grant given by Government, I consider it to be moderate. As nearly as I can calculate, it is less by about one-fourth than the sum which could be claimed under the system of the Cape Colony.

In conclusion I have to express my cordial appreciation of the warm hospitality and thorough kindness which I have met with everywhere during my five weeks in Basutoland.

I have, &c.
HENRY R. WOODROOFFE, M.A.

To the Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

ANNUAL REPORT upon the DISTRICT of BEREA for the Year ended 30th June 1892.

The past year has been rather a disturbed one in this district.

In August 1891, Patso Mota had a quarrel with the Chief Mamathe about ploughing of lands, and some fighting took place, but it eventually ended in Patso leaving the district.

About the same time a quarrel broke out at Masalomane, between Peeta and Masupha's son Lebese, who was placed at Masalomane by his father. This quarrel also related to ploughing

of lands; the necessary steps were taken for preserving peace, and in a short while it quieted down, but was not satisfactorily settled, as was soon evident by the quarrel again breaking out in April 1892. A meeting was then held at Masalomare by the Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief, the Chief Masupha being also present, when the whole matter was gone into, and Peeta was ordered to withdraw that part of his people who had been living at Masalomane, Lebese being fined 50 head of cattle.

The meeting was held on the 4th June 1892, and since that time there has been no further disturbance.

The quarrel between Masupha and Leshaboro is not a very serious one, though it is not satisfactorily settled, which is evident by its breaking out nearly every year, generally about ploughing time, being with reference to ploughing of lands on top of the Berea mountain.

In dealing with thefts and tracing of thieves and stock, I have received the necessary assistance from the Chiefs; also in the collection of revenue, though the Chiefs Peeta and Leshaboro have been rather backward in enforcing the payment of tax on their people; many of Peeta's people having lost stock and other things in the disturbance at Masalomane, prevented them from paying.

The officers of the Free State have co-operated with me in all cases in which their assistance has been necessary. In spite of frequent patrols along the border, small quantities of brandy are occasionally brought into the district.

The crops in this district during the year have not been good, in some parts being almost entirely eaten up by the swarms of locusts which visited Basutoland, though in others fair crops of wheat, mealies, and Kaffir corn have been reaped.

Wheat has sold at 20*s.* per muid, mealies at 12*s.*, and Kaffir corn, which has been more plentiful than last year, at 14*s.*

The trade of the district has been fair. The Arab traders have entirely ceased to trade in this district.

A deputy-inspector of schools from the Cape Colony visited some of the larger schools during the year, and spoke very favourably of them.

The roads have required to be continually repaired, though it is difficult to get men as overseers who understand the work. Native labour has been plentiful.

There is no medical officer in this district. Dr. Savage, the medical officer at Maseru, has visited this district, and has looked up several cases of leprosy. It has been suggested that the Chiefs should co-operate, and place all the lepers in their different wards in isolation, but this has not yet been done.

The report of school inspections has already been sent in.

BASUTOLAND. 1891–92.

The following returns are attached.

Annual return of revenue.
" hut tax.
" hut tax arrears.
" trading licenses, nominal list.
" hawkers' licenses.
" passes issued.
" civil and criminal cases.
" lost stock.

(Signed) C. G. BRABANT,
Berea, 1st July 1892. Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Annual Return of Revenue collected in Berea District during the year ended 30th June 1892.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax - - - - - - -	2,812 10 0
Licenses - - - - - - -	237 0 0
Fees for transfer of licenses - - - -	0 10 0
Passes to remove grain - - - - -	0 7 6
Fees - - - - - - - -	5 17 6
Judicial fines - - - - - -	42 17 6
Miscellaneous receipts - - - - -	4 15 0
	3,103 17 6

Return Hawkers' Licences.

Monthly hawkers' licences - - - 17
Free - - - - - 14

31

(Signed) C. G. BRABANT,
Berea, 1st July 1892. Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Return of Traders.

No of Traders.	No. of Stations.
15	21

Return Passes.

Passes issued to persons in search of work -	2,648
Passes issued to persons for other purposes	3,973
	6,621

Return of Civil and Criminal Cases heard in the Assistant Commissioner's Court, Berea.

Civil cases - - -	- 10
Criminal cases - -	- 0
Theft - - -	- 5
Contravening liquor regulations -	- 5
Contravening customs regulations -	- 4
Contravening pass regulations -	- 17
Assault - - -	- 1
Resisting police - -	- 4
Creating disturbance - -	- 1

Berea, July 1st, 1892.

(Signed) C. G. BRABANT,
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Return of Lost and Stolen Stock reported at Berea.

Traced to Basuto-land.		Not traced.		Total reported.		Recovered and restored.		Not recovered.	
Horses.	Cattle.	Horses.	Cattle.	Horses.	Cattle.	Horses.	Cattle.	Horses.	Cattle.
1	4	17	17	18	21	5	4	13	17

Berea, July 1st, 1892.

(Signed) C. G. BRABANT.
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

MASERU DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1892.

General.

1. I entered upon the duties of Assistant Commissioner, Maseru, on the 27th October 1891.

2. The late Paramount Chief Letsie died on the 21st November 1891, and was succeeded by his eldest son Lerothodi.

Letsie's death did not affect the politics of the district to the extent that it was feared it would, and beyond some slight delay in the payment of hut tax just before and immediately after his death—and that only on the part of his own personal following—the event has not disturbed the existing order of things.

3. On the 12th March a section of the Bathlokoa tribe, located in a remote valley in the north-east corner of the district, represented by their Chief Ledingoana, was tried before the Resident Commissioner for having killed two people who were accused of witchcraft. The case occurred in 1886, when these people were practically in a state of independence, as owing to the remoteness of their abode no control had been exercised over them, and they had not yet come into touch with Government.

Ledingoana and his people were fined 200 head of cattle.

4. A long standing dispute between the Chiefs Bereng and Maama, concerning rights of chieftainship in the neighbourhood of Popa, found vent in February last in a collision between a hunting party of Bereng's and an outlying post of Maama's, which ended in bloodshed.

After some fighting, in which three of Bereng's and one of Maama's people were killed, Bereng's men were beaten off and returned home, and the Paramount Chief arrived in the neighbourhood in time to intercept Bereng, who was proceeding with a large armed following to avenge his defeat.

With the advent of the Paramount Chief peace was restored, and on the 5th March an inquiry was held at Mofokas, in my presence. Both Chiefs attended, and expressed their contrition at what had occurred, and each expressed his surprise at the manner in which the other had acted.

On the 6th April the case was heard by the Resident Commissioner, and heavy cattle fines were imposed.

Population.

The Census taken last year showed a population of 45,402 souls.

Education.

I attach a report on the schools in the district which are in receipt of Government aid.

Commercial.

Trade has been bad this year, and I am sorry to say that I can see no prospect of improvement. Terrible ravages have been committed by locusts among the crops, and it is a question whether a famine like that of 1885 may not have to be faced during the next six months. Many people have reaped nothing, and the exceptional cases are those in which no damage has been sustained.

The following are approximately the average prices paid by traders to natives for produce during the past year:—

Wheat - - - -	16*s.* per muid.
Mealies - - - -	10*s.* „
Kaffir corn - - -	15*s.* „
Wool - - - -	3*d.* per lb.
Hides - - - -	3*d.* „
Mohair - - - -	3*d.* „
Horned cattle - - -	4*l.* per head.
Sheep and goats - - -	10*s.* „

Public Works.

The roads in the district are on the whole in good repair. This is due partly to the exertions of the road parties and partly to the dry weather of the last few months.

The pont on the Caledon, in addition to being a great boon to the public, continues to pay well. The ferry tolls last year amounted to 344*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.*, and this notwithstanding a long spell of dry weather during which the pont lay idle.

Arrangements have been made for providing Maseru with a water supply.

The water is being led by means of pipes from a spring situated about a mile from the town. The inconvenience arising from the absence of an adequate supply of water has hitherto been much felt, and it is hoped that this will remove it.

Medicine.

I attach the report of the medical officer

Police.

The police detachment attached to my office consist of:—

2 Sub-inspectors.
3 European constables.
1 Native sergeant.
3 Corporals.
44 Privates.

53 of all ranks, all mounted.

I attach lost stock return.

Crime.

Serious crime continues to be rare, although the number of cases tried compares unfavourably with that of last year.

I append a list of cases tried in my court during the year under report.

Murder, 1 case Manslaughter, 2 cases	tried by combined Court.
Housebreaking	1 case.
Theft	6 „
Fraud	1 „
Attempted abduction	1 „
Assault	3 „
Escapes	3 „
Contravening liquor regulations	5 „
Contravening Masters and Servants Act	2 „

Revenue.

The general revenue falls short of last year by 668*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.*

The shortfall is in hut tax, licenses, ferry dues, and fines.

Although the total hut tax collected is 175*l.* less than last year, the normal tax for the year has slightly increased, as will be seen by the following table:—

Years.	Normal Collection for the Year.	Arrears for previous Years.	Total.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
1890-1	3,412 0 0	621 0 0	4,033 0 0
1891-2	3,497 10 0	360 10 0	3,858 0 0

The shortfall in licences is due to depression in trade; in ferry dues, to a dry autumn and winter; in fines, it is a matter for congratulation.

Passes.

Eight thousand two hundred and fifty-seven passes were granted to natives to leave the district during the year; of these 3,951 went in search of work.

Relations with bordering States.

Intercourse with the Orange Free State continues to be of a friendly nature.

The Landdrost of Ladybrand has always afforded me most cordial and ready assistance whenever it has been in his power to do so, and to the co-operation so afforded I attribute in a great measure the comparative immunity which we in the district enjoy from the evils attendant upon the liquor traffic.

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Assistant Commissioner's Office.
Maseru, July 4, 1892.

Statement of Revenue for Year ending June 30, 1892.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax	3,858 0 0
Licences	240 2 6
Fines	177 11 5
Fees	42 15 0
Special receipts	60 10 6
Ferry dues	344 5 9
[illegible]stal revenue	757 3 6
Miscellaneous	83 10 10
Grain passes	2 6
Transfer of licences	2 6
	5,564 4 6

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Maseru, June 30, 1892. Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Return of Trade Licences issued in Maseru District during the Year ending June 30, 1892.

Nature.	No.
General traders	22
Hawkers' licences (free)	5
Hawkers' licences (monthly)	10
Passes to remove grain	1
Total	38

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Maseru, June 30, 1892. Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Return of Lost Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Recovered but not reported.
Horses - -	13	—	13	1	—
Cattle - -	11	—	11	—	—
Sheep - -	150	—	150	150	30

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Maseru, June 30, 1892. Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Maseru, July 1, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that the health of this district for the past year has been very good. With the exception of influenza there have been no epidemics in this district, and only two cases of zymotic disease were treated at the hospital.

The number of attendances at the hospital was 6,663, of which 5,331 were cases treated for the first time; the numbers last year were 7,530 and 6,430. There were 55 hospital in-patients, who remained in 646 days; 3 died, one being admitted in a moribund condition.

The diminution in the number of attendances may be accounted for by the brighter and dryer season we have had this year compared with last, fewer cases of chest diseases, of ophthalmic, and also of venereal disease. There were 630 cases of mocaula compared with 705 last year, but 34 cases of tertiary syphilis against 22 last year. There were also fewer cases of phthisis. The percentage of venereal compared with other diseases is still very high.

The epidemic of influenza commenced about the beginning and lasted to the end of May. It was mild in type and not so serious among the Basutos as among the Europeans. There were no deaths from it in this neighbourhood, and I only heard of one or two in distant villages.

I consider the climate had a great influence in modifying the more serious aspects of the disease.

With regard to leprosy, 15 cases attended the hospital, of which 12 were fresh cases, showing the disease is still on the increase. No new cases have been reported to me by the police, but the suggestions I made in my report on leprosy in September last do not seem to have been fully carried out, as several known cases of leprosy have not been separated and isolated from their families. If those suggestions, simple as they are, cannot be efficiently and effectually carried out, then more stringnet measures will have to be adopted, or lepers, in order to escape

the new regulations in the Free State, will seek a refuge in Basutoland, as they are already reported to have done.

The health of the prisoners in the gaol has been very good.

I have, &c.

(Signed) S. RADFORD SAVAGE,
Medical Officer.

The Assistant Commissioner,
Maseru.

LERIBE DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1892.

General.

There has been no serious disturbance in this district during the past year. Friction exists between Jonathan and several of the minor Chiefs in the district, showing itself from time to time in disputes mostly of a trivial nature from our point of view.

I.—On the 1st July 1891 an attack was made by Jonathan's herdsmen on the followers of Mpaki, a son of Molapo, living near the cattle posts in the mountains. Some huts were burnt and other damage done to the property of the villagers; and although Jonathan disowned the action of his herdsmen at the time, he took no steps to punish them, and on the night of the 8th October a fresh attack was made by them on Mpaki, who was driven from his village, which he has not since re-occupied.

II.—The long standing quarrel between Jonathan and his brother Joel, unfortunately, does not show signs of coming to an end.

Joel made overtures to Jonathan at one time, requesting his assistance in the matter of locating his eldest son, and asking him to use his influence with the Paramount Chief to obtain permission for Joel's cattle to return to their old pasturage in Mechachaneng, but no help was given by Jonathan in either of these matters, and certain native law cases which were referred to him by Joel have never been settled.

III.—The tract of land known as Mechachaneng, above referred to, has never entirely recovered from the state of disorder it was thrown into during the fighting between Joel and Makela in September 1890.

The subsequent inquiry into the case resulted in the Mechachaneng being awarded to Makela, and there have been numerous complaints of the steps since taken by him to evict the followers of Joel, many of whom have lived there for years, and wish to remain there. One case of the kind, in which fire-arms were used, is now under investigation.

IV.—As anticipated in my last year's report Motsoene made an attempt in July 1891, to take possession of his father's old village at Butha Buthe, sending his brother Masupha, with some armed

men, to occupy it. These men were dispersed by a party of Joel's followers under Matlatsa; and some guns and a horse were taken from them, which Joel has lately surrendered to the Paramount Chief. The originators of this disturbance have not been punished.

V. The ward of the late Chief Lesaoana is not in a satisfactory state. Owing to the jealousy existing between his sons, considerable difficulty is experienced in enforcing payment of hut tax, and native law-cases, instead of being promptly settled by the Chiefs, are allowed to drift until the disputants are driven to take the law into their own hands, and resort to violence.

Generally speaking, the sons of Lesaoana show a disinclination to follow the advice of their officers, and, although professedly loyal to the Government, they evade doing what is required of them, as far as they consider it safe to do so.

VI.—The question of the Government right to the Reserve at Thlotse Heights was re-opened by the Headman Makotoko during the past year. This Headman has from time to time, since the Gun War, taken possession of Government lands on the Reserve, and given them out to his followers, and no more such lands being available, he this year commenced ploughing up part of the pasturages.

This was put a stop to by the Resident Commissioner, but no steps have been taken to compel him to restore the lands previously seized by him. This is a question affecting police discipline, as the men see that if they do their duty in such a way as to displease the Chiefs, they are liable to be deprived of their lands, and the Government Service suffers accordingly.

VII.—Hut tax has not come in so well this year as could be wished. This is largely owing to the neglect of the Chief Jonathan, who has failed to put the requisite pressure on his people, and has rather encouraged them by his example to delay payment.

Attention has been drawn to this from time to time.

VII.—This Chief has also sometimes shown reluctance to assist in the re-capture of criminals who have escaped from the Free State.

One such case was reported on the 31st March last, and is now the subject of correspondence with the Free State authorities.

VIII.—Details of events in the sub-district of Butha-Buthe will be found in the attached report of sub-inspector Boxwell.

Population.

The population of the district as shown by the Census returns is about 48,000.

Education.

The Cape Government Inspector of Schools, Canon Woodrooffe, visited some of the schools in the district in January last, but was

unable, through shortness of time and bad weather, to inspect them all.

A report was sent in, on the 26th instant, on the schools which receive Government aid.

Commercial.

Trade appears to be brisk, and grain is fetching high prices.

Most of the Arab or Coolie traders formerly in the district have left, and Europeans have taken their places. As the Coolies occasionally tried to make trouble between the Chiefs and the Government their departure is not to be regretted.

Public Works.

The new public offices at this station were completed in August 1891, and the hospital in October.

Additions are being made to the gaol at Thlotse Heights, and officers' quarters have been commenced at Butha Buthe to replace the temporary buildings hitherto occupied.

The roads in this district are in fair order, and compare favourably with those in adjacent parts of the Free State.

It is proposed to commence a new section of road on the Upper Caledon, to connect with the waggon road recently made, to cross the mountains from Witzies-Hoek to the Caledon, near Kennan's Cave. The road, if constructed, would give access to several Free State farms on the Upper Caledon, at present unoccupied on account of difficulties of route.

Medical.

The report of the medical officer for the district is attached. A report by the same officer on the spread of leprosy was sent in on the 20th August 1891.

Police.

The police have had additional work thrown on them during the past year, owing to the inspection of waggons, &c., called for by the Customs Convention.

The force is in a fair state of discipline, and, considering the difficulties under which the men labour, their duties are well performed.

Crime.

The criminal cases tried during the year are as follows:—

Theft - - - - -	15 cases.
Contravention of liquor law - - -	9 „
Contravention of pass law - - -	5 „

Contravention of customs law	-	2 cases.
Contravention of trading regulations	-	3 „
Assault	-	2 „
Resisting police	-	2 „
Breach of prison discipline	-	1 „
Rescue of impounded stock	-	1 „

Relations with bordering States.

Intercourse with the Orange Free State continues on a friendly footing. The Extradition Treaty works well, and several escaped criminals have been arrested in this district and surrendered during the past year.

The question of the boundary between the Orange Free State and this territory on the Upper Caledon was settled early in the year, in favour of Basutoland, and the disputed tract was beaconed off by a joint commission from the Free State and Basutoland.

Several of the cases of theft tried in this court during the year have arisen out of disputes about wages between masters and servants in the Free State.

The servants, feeling aggrieved, have taken property of their masters and brought it into Basutoland. While condemning this practice, it is well to recollect that the fault, originally, in many cases, lies with the masters, who, when the servants' terms of service have nearly expired, quarrel with them on frivolous grounds with the object of finding an excuse for withholding their wages.

Instances still occasionally occur of Free State burghers taking cases of theft, &c. to the native Chiefs for settlement, and ignoring the officers of the Government. Their excuse for this appears to be that the Chiefs award them more liberal compensation out of the defendant's property than Government officers feel justified in doing.

The following returns are attached:—

I.—Revenue collected from 1st July 1891 to 30th June 1892, amounting to 4,822*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.*

II.—*Arrear hut tax collected during the same period, amounting to 679*l.* 10*s.*

III.—*Nominal list of licensed traders.

IV.—Return of number of hawker licenses issued.

V.—Annual return of hut tax collected, inclusive of stock and grain.

VI.—Return of passes issued.

VII.—Return of lost stock reported, and action taken thereon.

(Signed) S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

* Not Printed.

Return of Lost and Stolen Stock reported, and Action taken thereon.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.
Horses - -	*23	4	17	4
Cattle - -	77	3	74	3
Sheep - -	24	24	—	24

* The case of two of these horses is still under investigation.

(Signed) S. BARRETT,
Leribe, June 30, 1892. Assistant Commissioner.

List of General Traders' Licences in Leribe District.

Europeans.	Arabs or Coolies.	Shops.
13	1	23

(Signed) S. BARRETT,
Leribe, June 30, 1892. Assistant Commissioner.

LERIBE DISTRICT.

Return showing Number of Hawkers' Licences issued during Year ended June 30th, 1892.

Period.	No. of Licences for which 1*l.* was paid.	No. of Licences free.	Total.
12 months ended 30th June 1892.	63	21	84

Return of Passes issued in Leribe District during Year ended June 30th, 1892.

No. of Passes issued.	No. of Persons to whom Passes were issued.	No. of Persons obtaining Passes to seek Employment.
7,729	12,364	2,682

Leribe, June 30, 1892.

(Signed) S. BARRETT,
Assi tant Commissioner.

Return showing Amount of Revenue collected in Leribe District during Year ended June 30th, 1892.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax - - - - - - -	4,159 12 0
Licences - - - - - - -	454 15 0
Fines - - - - - - -	60 10 0
Ferry tolls - - - - - - -	16 6 6
Fees of Court or Office - - - - -	1 1 0
Fees for transfer of licences - - - -	0 2 6
Fees for registering marriages - - - -	1 12 6
Special receipts - - - - - -	128 15 1
	4,822 14 7
Arrears, hut tax, Thlotse Heights - - - -	416 0 0
„ „ Butha Bathe - - - -	263 10 0
	679 10 0

Leribe, June 30, 1892.

(Signed) S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

Medical Report for the Year ending June 30th, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that the public health in this district has been good throughout the year. The number of cases having attended the public dispensary and hospital has been 5,632, showing an increase of 531 cases over last year's report.

This increase in the attendance is partly due to the epidemic of influenza, prevalent in the Leribe district during the months of April and May.

The influenza was generally of a mild character, proving mortal for only four cases in camp.

Syphilis or mocaola is less prevalent in the district than formerly, the dispensary books showing only an average of five per cent. of mocaola cases.

Leprosy has also been apparently stationary; it is, however, difficult to know the exact progress of the malady, as the Chiefs have given orders to lepers not to appear in public, the result being that lepers are rarely seen among other patients, but mix all the same with their neighbours and relations at home.

Gonorrhœa and other venereal and uterine diseases are, on the contrary, on the increase. This is owing to the general prostitution practised by married women and girls among the Basutos.

Several cases of goitre have come to my notice of late. The disease seems prevalent among the people living in the closed valleys of the Malutas. It attacks specially young women, and may be connected with malarial or other influences causing the so called camp fever.

No case of cretinism has been noted among them.

Nervous diseases seem also on the increase; mental derangement is frequent, and epilepsy frequent, to the extent of 2½ per cent.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. CASALIS,
Medical Officer.

The Assistant Commissioner,
Leribe.

BUTHA BUTHE.

SIR,

Butha Buthe, July 1st, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to submit to you the Annual Report of that part of the Leribe District under my more immediate charge for the past year.

General.

There has not been any very serious disturbance in this ward during the past year; but relations between Joel and Jonathan, and Joel and Matela, have not in any way improved.

There are constant disputes between Matela's people and the men living in his country who call themselves Joel's. These people for a long time failed to carry out the judgment given by Mr. Lagden, that they should either acknowledge Matela as their Chief, or come out from his country.

Some of them have left, but many are still there, and are a constant source of trouble, Leboea and Mtsuana in particular.

Joel is still very reluctant to send any cases to Jonathan, or to refer to him in any matter.

Early in July 1891, Letsika, Matela's eldest son, was reinstated in his father's country. He is the cause of a good deal of trouble between Matela and his other sons.

On July the 21st some cattle of Motsoene's were reported to have been sent over the boundary stream into Joel Ward.

This occurred again a day or two afterwards, and on the 27th, when the cattle were again over, some of Joel's men came up armed, and drove away Motsoene's men and the cattle. Some few shots were fired, but no one was injured.

During the latter end of May 1892, the people in Joel Ward were very uneasy, owing to rumours that Jonathan intended to go up with an armed party to Matela's, ostensibly to attend a feast, but really to drive Leboea away from Machachaneng. Nothing, however, came of this, as Jonathan did not go up.

On the 9th June it was reported that, a few days before, a fight had taken place between Letsika's people and Lekopa's, two of Matela's sons, in which some 16 or 17 men had been injured. This was not reported by Matela, who said, when asked about it, that it was only a fight with sticks between a few herd boys.

On the same day Joel reported that he was placing his eldest son, Mopedi, at Butha Buthe. Mopedi came to Butha Buthe's mountain, and is at present living in a cave over Letaka's village. No site has as yet been pointed out for Mopedi's village.

On June 26th news reached me of another disturbance between Matela's people and Mtsuana. Shots were fired, and I was at first afraid that the Chiefs would join in and bring on a serious fight.

I, however, now am in hopes that the matter may be settled without further fighting.

Two cases only of serious crime occurred during the year; one was a case of manslaughter, the other of attempted rape.

The prisoner in the latter case is still awaiting trial, and there may be other charges of the same nature against him.

The locusts came in great numbers over this ward during the months of March and April, but have not done any widespread damage, though a few men have suffered considerable loss.

Revenue.

I am glad to be able to report that, year by year, there is a steady increase in the hut tax paid in this ward. The amount paid during the past year exceeded that of the previous year by 71*l.* 10*s.*, the people of Joel and Malupi paying particularly well.

The total Revenue of the ward is also higher than during any previous twelve months.

Trade.

There are now nine stores open in this ward, most of which are doing, I think, fairly well.

The number of hawkers' licences issued here was 45, only 20 being issued the previous year.

The roads in the ward are now in good order. That leading into Tlama's ground has been put into thorough repair, and the part of it which goes over the rocks at Tsimo now presents no difficulties to traders. This is an important road, as a large quantity of grain is grown in Tlama's ground.

I have received instructions to make a short piece of road in Machachaneng, and hope soon to get at this work.

Schools.

There are three schools in this ward receiving aid from Government, and one or two smaller ones, branches from the above. One school is under the directions of the Church of England, the other two under the French Protestant Church.

The total number of pupils on the books of the aided schools during the past quarter was 104.

My relations with the Orange Free State officials along the border during the past year have been friendly, and they have given me all the assistance in their power.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

The Assistant Commissioner,
Leribe.

Return of Revenue collected during Twelve months ended June 30th, 1892.

Hut Tax.	Licences.	Fines.	Fees.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
1,118*l.* 10*s.*	138*l.*	5*l.* 15*s.*	4*s.*	Nil.	1,262*l.* 9*s.*

Return of Passes issued July 1st, 1891, to June 30th, 1892.

No. of Passes issued.	No. of People.	No. of People seeking Work.
3,979	6,564	1,395

(Signed) W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

Butha Buthe, July 1st, 1892.

Return of Lost and Stolen Stock, July 1st, 1891, to June 30th, 1892.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.
Horses - -	6	6	—	6
Cattle -	3	—	3	—
Sheep - -	35	—	35	—

(Signed) W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

Butha Buthe, July 1st, 1892.

MAFETENG.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1892.

I.—Few events of political importance occurred during the past year.

The succession of Lerothodi Letsie to the Paramount Chieftainship of the Basuto necessitated the removal of his residence from this district to near Matsieng; when the Chief left Mafeteng district he appointed counsellors to represent him, and these persons have rendered me cordial assistance, whenever I found it necessary to refer native questions to them.

II.—The border adjoining the Orange Free State continues to be vigilantly patrolled by mounted police, whose principal duty has been to check brandy smuggling into Basutoland from the town of Wepener, and from illicit canteens kept by certain Free State farmers near the border.

Patrol work has been comparatively easy along that portion of border enclosed with a wire fence, and three (3) police shelters have been erected, one at each gateway.

About seven (7) miles of the border, extending from Mr. Bergh's farm to the Caledon River, is still unfenced, and at this point police patrols have difficulty in stopping illicit traffic.

Although eighty-four (84) persons were arrested on entering Basutoland with liquor in their possession and punished in the

Assistant Commissioner's Court, Mafeteng, (twenty were arrested within the last quarter), the smuggling still continues.

I am aware that during the last ten days the Landdrost of Wepener has placed great restrictions on the sale of liquor to coloured persons, and I trust his action may have the satisfactory result of suppressing illicit traffic.

The police have also been engaged on Customs duty connected with the importation of merchandize into this territory.

III.—Heavy rains during the summer months did considerable injury to transport roads, and necessitated the constant employment of labour parties, who, under the direction of competent overseers, have repaired all damage, and the roads are now in good order.

A cottage for the medical officer was built, additional hospital accommodation authorised, and necessary repairs have been done to the various Government buildings. The public cemetery has also been enclosed with a stone wall.

IV.—The free dispensary was well attended by natives. I attach a report from the medical officer.

V.—There are nineteen general traders' shops in the district, and six hawkers' licences were issued.

Many persons from the Cape Colony and Free State have obtained free permits to barter produce for Basutoland grain.

Flights of locusts destroyed numerous standing crops, and consequently the price of cereals ruled high, and those who depended on their crops for food are somewhat short of provision. Good seed wheat supplied by Government has been issued.

The following were the average local prices paid for Basutoland produce and stock:—

Mealies - - - -	10*s.* per muid
Kaffir corn - - - -	15*s.* „
Wheat - - - -	15*s.* „
Oats - - - -	10*s.* „
Barley - - - -	10*s.* „
Tobacco - - - -	6*d.* per lb.
Hides - - - -	3*d.* „
Wool - - - -	4*d.* „
Mohair - - - -	5*d.* „
Horned cattle - -	30*s.* to 80*s.* each
Sheep - - -	5*s.* to 12*s.* „
Goats - - -	3*s.* to 7*s.* „
Basuto ponies averaged -	2*l.* to 8*l.* „

VI.—A large number of natives obtained passes for the purpose of seeking employment in the Cape Colony, Orange Free State, and Transvaal.

VII.—The various mission schools and undenominational schools in the district continue to do good work, and are well attended.

I attach a separate Report on 25 Government aided schools inspected during last year.

VIII.—The Civil and Criminal Cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court, Mafeteng, were as follows:—

Civil actions	5
Wilful murder	1
Manslaughter	3
Perjury	1
Theft	6
Section 7, Liquor Regulations	84
Resisting police	8
Assault	2
Escaping from custody	2
Pass Law	2

Stolen stock, when traced into Basutoland and reported at the Assistant Commissioner's Office, has in every case been recovered.

I would mention that out of the above record the following cases arose directly through the sale of brandy on the Free State Border to natives:—Section 7, Liquor Ordinance, 76; Resisting police, 6; Assault, 7. These statistics show that, if the temptation to buy liquor was removed from the Basuto, there would be comparatively little crime in this district, which contains a population of over 40,000 persons.

IX.—I append statistics of revenue, which is improving.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	3,555	0	0
Licenses	199	0	0
Fines	157	0	0
Fees	5	12	1
Miscellaneous	4	9	3
	3,921	1	4

I attach the under-mentioned Reports and Returns:—

Medical Officer's Report.
School Inspection.
Lost Stock Return.
Revenue Return.
Traders' Return.
Passes issued.
Hawkers' Return.
Number of huts on which tax has been paid.

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner,
Mafeteng.

SIR, Mafeteng, Basutoland, July 1, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report on the medical work done in the Mafeteng District during the past year.

The health of the village of Mafeteng and of the district generally has been on the whole good. I have, however, to record a very important epidemic of influenza, which made its appearance towards the end of April, and lasted about two months, during which period a very large portion of the population were attacked to a greater or lesser extent. The disease was, in the vast majority of cases, mild in type, and the after-effects were trifling. I am not aware of a single uncomplicated case proving fatal, and complications were quite exceptional. It was particularly noteworthy that the most common and serious complication observed in Europe, pneumonia, was not met with.

A small but very fatal epidemic of diphtheria was reported from a small village near Kalabane mountain. Six children died.

No other infectious disease, and only one case of typhoid fever, came under my notice.

The number of persons treated at the Government dispensary during the year was 3,533, of which 1,271 were males, 1,377 females, and 888 infants and children.

Subsequent attendances numbered 1,634, and hospital attendances amounted to 2,276.

The total number of attendances was thus 7,433. Eleven deaths (two in hospital) occurred amongst those under treatment.

At the beginning of the year the newly erected hospital hut was opened to receive surgical and medical cases which could not be properly attended as out-patients at the dispensary. This has proved of the greatest use. The accommodation has, however, been found insufficient for our needs. The new ward now in course of erection will supply a want which has been at times keenly felt, and will, I hope, enable the work to be carried out in a more satisfactory manner than has been possible hitherto.

From the annexed table, showing an analysis of all cases treated during the year, it will be seen that syphilis (called by the natives makaula) is still very prevalent, five hundred and twenty-one cases being recorded, nor does this number, I am afraid, nearly represent the total number in the district, for very many cases are still treated by native doctors and others. The extraordinary prevalence of this disease may, I think, be attributed to want of cleanliness, and ignorance or disregard of its contagious nature, and to lesser extent, perhaps, to immorality.

The native, too, is much more susceptible to this disease than the European.

In 308 instances the disease was acquired, and 203 infants and children hereditary. The great amenability of this disease to medical treatment, coupled with the tendency to natural extinction makes me hopeful that in time it will cease to be so general.

Five hundred and sixty-one persons sought relief for digestive trouble.

The undue proportion of cases of this nature can only be ascribed to the character of the native diet, principally the use, often in incredibly large quantities, of a thin gruelly fluid made from grain whilst fermentation is still going on.

Twelve cases of leprosy came under treatment. I am not aware that any attempt has been made to isolate, even partially, persons suffering from this disease.

Thirteen deaths by lightning have come to my notice, and sixteen persons have sought relief for shock and other nervous symptoms caused by it.

Two deaths by violence, two by accident, one by drink and exposure, and one suicide have also come to my knowledge in the course of past year.

I have, &c.

The Assistant Commissioner, Mafeteng.

(Signed) W. M. EATON, Medical Officer.

Return of Lost and Stolen Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered and restored.	Not recovered.
Cattle - -	13	1	12	1	12
Horses - -	2	—	2	—	2
Sheep - -	79	26	53	24	55
Goats - -	28	—	28	—	28

One horse recovered before reported lost.

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN, Assistant Commissioner.

Return of Revenue collected in the Mafeteng District between 1st July 1891 and 30th June 1892.

Head of Revenue.	Amounts. £	s.	d.
Hut tax - - - - - -	3,555	0	0
Licenses - - - - - -	199	0	0
Fines - - - - - -	157	0	0
Fees - - - - - - -	5	12	1
Miscellaneous - - - - -	4	9	3
	3,921	1	4

Return.—Traders.

No. of Traders.	Stations.
12	19

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN.
Assistant Commissioner

Return.—Hawkers' Licences.

Ordinary licences - - -	9
Free - - - - -	50
	59

Return of Passes.

In search of work - - -	4,280
Other purposes - - - -	4,081
	8,361

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Cornet Spruit District, June 1892.

I.—The past twelve months may be described as almost uneventful.

From 1st July last the territory was included in the South African Customs Union; this has given rise to the establishing of posts at all main entrances to the district from foreign States for the supervision of goods entering, and the arrangements appear to act satisfactorily.

Unimportant disputes between minor Chiefs have in all cases been settled by the Chief Lerothodi or his representative.

On the 30th July last the Chief Lerothodi with Leduma (Chief of the Baposhuti) were sent by the Paramount Chief Letsie to investigate and settle a long standing dispute between the Chief Sekoati and a Headman named Maphakela; the dispute was over certain gardens used by the latter and claimed by the former.

On the same date one of the minor Bataung Chiefs, Ntsuele, died.

On the 4th August an old and much respected Chief, Potsane, died.

The funeral was attended by myself, Mr. Boyes, and all the available police, and was conducted according to Christian rites, the burial service being read by the Rev. M. A. Reading; the Chief Potsane is succeeded by his eldest son Malebanye.

On the 18th November the Paramount Chief Letsie died, which event cast a gloom over the district; all natives who were able flocked from the district to pay their last respect over their Chief's grave. Shortly afterwards a National Pitso was held at Maseru, and the Chief Lerothodi appointed to succeed his father as Paramount Chief of the territory.

The above sad event had been for some time anticipated; but has made little or no diffierence in the political aspect of the district.

II.—Relations between the territory and neighbouring states continue satisfactory.

I regret to have to say that the illicit sale of brandy continues on the Free State border, more especially on the Bataung border. Every effort is being made to put a stop to this nefarious traffic.

III.—The population is increasing yearly, and the district is becoming much crowded, and arable land very scarce.

IV.—In January last the locusts visited the district and remained for some time, doing great damage to standing crops and pasturage generally.

Owing to the early frost in April many of the crops that had escaped the locusts were destroyed. Owing to these two drawbacks grain is scarce and dear in the district.

V.—Education and religion are, I think, making fair progress. During the past year a Cape Colonial school inspector visited the district. School report attached.*

VI.—The traders in the district have, I think, done fairly well during the past year; just at present, owing to the scarcity of grain, business is slack as compared with the early part of the year.

General trading stations - - -	15
Hawkers' licenses - - - -	12
Dam licenses - - - -	2

VII.—The medical work in the district has considerably increased, and I feel sure is duly appreciated.

An epidemic of influenza was prevalent during the months of May and June, but no fatal cases have been brought to my notice, *vide* Medical Report, from which it will be seen that the hospital work has greatly increased, and in consequence of the increasing demand two extra wards have been added to the dispensary for hospital accommodation.

* Not printed.

VIII.—*Crime.*

The criminal record has been very small; the following is an extract from the records :—

Theft - - - - - -	3
Manslaughter - - - - -	1
Contravening regulations - - -	4
„ Customs regulations - -	1
Other irregularities - - - -	2

IX.—Labour has been plentiful during the past year, and a large number of passes have been issued, mostly to persons seeking employment in neighbouring states. *Vide* return of passes issued.

X.—The roads in the district are now in fair order, but have required constant repairing, owing to damage done by the rains last year.

Three road parties have been employed, and the expenditure on the work has been very heavy.

XI.—The pont and ferry-boats are much used during the rainy season, and are of great benefit to traders and travellers.

IX.—*Revenue.*

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax - - - -	3,007	10	0
Licenses - - - -	247	11	9
Fees of Court - - -	2	15	0
Special Receipts - - -	9	2	6
Total - -	3,266	19	3

(Signed) J. W. BOWKER,
Mohales Hoek, 30 June 1892. Assistant Commissioner.

Return of Passes issued at Mohales Hoek during the Year ended 30th June 1892.

Seeking employment - - -	2,934
Visiting, &c. - - - -	2,278
Total - - -	5,212

(Signed) J. W. BOWKER,
Mohales Hoek, 30 June 1892. Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND. 1891–92.

Return of Lost and Stolen Stock.

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Restored to owner.
Horses -	24	3	21	3	21	3
Cattle -	34	7	27	3	31	3
Sheep -	247	nil	247	nil	247	nil

(Signed) J. W. BOWKER,
Mohales Hoek, 30 June 1892. Assistant Commissioner.

Report of the Medical Work in the Mohales Hoek District for the Year ending 30th June 1892.

During the twelve months ending 30th June 1892, the attendance in the out-patient department of the Government hospital numbered 4,079. Of these 2,858 were new patients, and included 946 surgical and 1,912 medical cases. 10·9 per cent. of the total number were of a syphilitic nature, 446 being classed under this heading, and of these 106 were cases of hereditary disease. It is satisfactory to note that the Reserve is singularly free of this disease, most, and the worst, of the cases being from the mountain districts. Cases of zymotic diseases have been conspicuous by their absence, two cases of diphtheria being the only ones noted under this heading; two lepers presented themselves for treatment.

There was an outbreak of influenza during the months of May and June, but the cases were mostly of a mild nature, and no deaths are reported from this disease.

The work in the in-patient department has increased greatly since new accommodation was provided in February.

During the year 48 patients were admitted, of which number 37 were admitted between 31st January and 30th June; 30 major operations were performed on these patients, and two deaths occurred among in-patients during the year; a "resumé" * of the cases treated in the two departments is annexed.

(Signed) E. C. LONG,
Medical Officer.

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* Not printed.

QUTHING DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the Year ending 30th June 1892.

SIR

I HAVE the honour to submit herein my report on the affairs of this district for the year 1891–1892.

Early in the year Chief Lerothodi paid a visit to Quthing, and remained some weeks. While here a disturbance occurred between some messengers of Chief Letsie and the Chiefs Chopo and Le'ele, and it eventually transpired that the refugee Pondomesi Chief, Mhlonhlo, was more or less concerned in the quarrel.

Owing to this a rumour spread throughout the district that it was the intention of the Government to entrap and arrest him.

This rumour caused considerable excitement and anxiety throughout the whole district, which was only gradually allayed by your statement at the Pitso.

At the end of November the district was again disturbed by false reports caused by the death of the Paramount Chief Letsie; these, however, soon died away, on the Chief Lerothodi's instalment in his father's place, and Letsie's death may be said to have made little or no difference to this district.

There have been no disputes or fights worthy of mention during the year.

Within the last few weeks Chief Mooiletsi has revived an old dispute between himself and a colonial headman named Wilhem Schuyt, about the boundary of Basutoland at the Upper Telle River.

I am informed that this question was raised once before, in the time of Mr. J. M. Orpen, Governor's Agent. I am still awaiting further explanations from Mooiletsi before inquiring into the matter.

I am glad to be able to report that the outbreak of red-water, which caused so great a mortality among the horned cattle last year, has not recurred this year, except in a few isolated instances.

In the autumn, this district, in common with others, was visited by large swarms of locusts, which did terrible damage to the grain crops, and more or less ruined the harvest. Grain prices, therefore, are high just now, and growing steadily.

Stock in general is not in as good condition as it usually is at this time of the year.

The new waggon road in course of construction to Ongeluksnek has not been proceeded with since my last report, but the part already made is kept in fair repair.

As usual, a good deal of damage was done to the waggon roads by the heavy summer rains, but with the aid of an extra road party, I am glad to report that this has been made good, and that the roads are now in a fit state to carry the class of transport for which they are required.

There are at present nine trading stations in the district, and an application for a tenth is still under consideration.

The French Protestant Mission Society has ten schools in the district, and the Government has one night school for men and boys.

My report on them was forwarded to you on the 24th December last.

Since then some two or three of these have been re-examined by the Rev. Canon Woodroffe.

The police detachment stationed here continues effective. It consists of:—

1 European sub-inspector.
1 „ constable.
1 „ „ (temporary).
29 non-commissioned officers and men.

The population of the district was found by the Census taken last year to be 19,500 souls.

The following cases have been heard during the year in the Assistant Commissioner's Court:—

Civil	4
Criminal	—
Contravening Basutoland pass regulations	2
„ „ trading regulations	4
„ „ Customs regulations	2
Theft	5
Assault	1

The Revenue for the current year, which exceeds that of last year by 46*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*, was received as under:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax	1,675	0	0
Licenses	367	13	3
Fees	3	14	0
Miscellaneous	6	17	3
Total	2,053	4	6

I attach hereto schedules as under.

Revenue in details of heads.
Arrear hut tax collected.*
Passes issued (labour).
„ (ordinary).
Return of hawkers' licences.
Nominal list of traders.*

The dispensary at Moyeni, which was re-opened in June last by Dr. Long, and which it was intended should be kept open for two days per fortnight, has been again closed, as it was found

* Not printed.

impossible for the medical officer to attend to it while he was also attending a regular dispensary and hospital at Mohales Hoek, some 35 miles away.

A good deal of influenza has been about in the district lately, but not so much, it would seem, as in other parts of the country.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

Total Number of Passes issued at Quthing during Year ending June 30th, 1892.

Ordinary passes	2,218
Work „	1,433
	3,651

Number of Hawkers' Licences issued during Year ending June 30th 1892.

	10
Waggons	9
Horses	8
	17

(Signed) L. WROUGHTON,
Quthing, June 30, 1892. Assistant Commissioner.

Revenue, 1891–92.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount. £ s. d.
Hut Tax	1,675 0 0
Licences	100 7 6
Fines	17 2 6
Ferry tolls	250 3 3
Fees of court	3 14 0
Miscellaneous	6 17 3
	2,053 4 6

(Signed) L. WROUGHTON,
Quthing, June 30, 1892. Assistant Commissioner.

No. 89.

BASUTOLAND.

[For Report for 1891–92, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 62.]

Sir H. B. LOCH to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Cape Town,
August 12, 1893.

MY LORD MARQUESS,

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of the Annual Report of the Acting Resident Commissioner of Basutoland.

I enclose also a copy of the reply which I have addressed to Mr. Lagden.

In communicating this report to your Lordship I desire to express my high appreciation of the good work done by Sir Marshall Clarke, Mr. Lagden and the Basutoland officials generally. They have had to contend with great difficulties during the past year, but I am glad to be able to congratulate them on the way in which those difficulties have been surmounted and to have the opportunity of bringing their services to your Lordship's notice.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,
Governor and High Commissioner.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure No. 1.

From ACTING RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, Basutoland, to His Excellency the HIGH COMMISSIONER, South Africa.

Resident Commissioner's Office, Basutoland,
July 31, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to yuor Excellency a report upon British Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1893, together with report of the Acting Government Secretary covering Annual Reports of the Assistant Commissioners and Medical Officers in duplicate.

BASUTOLAND. 1892–93.

2. I was absent on duty in Swaziland for the greater part of the year, and on my return in March last, was much struck with the loyal, business-like character displayed by the Paramount Chief Lerothodi in dealing with national affairs, marred, however, occasionally by the effects of drink, to which he is apt to give way.

3. Lerothodi has undoubtedly had much opposition to contend with, due to jealousy on the part of some of his younger brothers and the younger sons of other influential chiefs. Many of these juniors had during Letsie's later life a prodigal and favoured time. They hoodwinked the old Chief, whose age and decrepitude made him blind to violence and excesses perpetrated under his name, and were spoiled for discipline.

4 The accession of a strong man like Lerothodi, full of will and purpose to set the house in order and assert his position, naturally provoked enmity between him and the section that had traded on the weakness of his father. Intrigues ensued which were calculated to shake the Paramount Chieftainship and strengthen the position of the younger generation, who viewed with some sense of alarm what appeared to them as the gradual decadence of their power and the apparent substitution of a public opinion, formerly unknown in the country, to which Lerothodi was prone to give ear. They fancied, moreover, that he owed his dynasty and the tenure of it too much to Government support.

5. These feelings, which had been fermenting ever since the death of Letsie, found vent, after various indications during the year under notice, in open defiance exhibited by Maama, who refused to acknowledge with due respect the position of the Paramount Chief or to obey his orders. He coquetted with Masupha and some of the minor Chiefs, giving as the ostensible reason for his behaviour that he was being deprived of rights and dispossessed of certain cattle bestowed upon him by his father. So incensed was Lerothodi at this attitude that he assembled his people under arms and marched towards Maama's village fully intent upon administering summary punishment. Upon the advice of Government, however, he withdrew his forces, returned home, and concurred in submitting the matter to the Resident Commissioner, who, regarding it as a very serious family quarrel, convened a Pitso of all the principal descendants and councillors of Moshesh to discuss and adjudicate upon it.

The proceedings showed beyond doubt that the pretexts advanced were illusory and that a conspiracy of younger against elder sons was really contemplated. It was regarded by the Pitso as an affair affecting the Chieftainship. This was unreservedly admitted by the principal speakers, who at the same time declared themselves bound in fealty to Lerothodi as their supreme chief in succession to Moshesh and Letsie.

There is ground for believing that Maama and his adherents were prompted by a desire to create a disturbance, conducive,

perhaps, to civil war ; but wiser counsels prevailed in the end, and Maama had to submit to a severe admonishment and to be deprived of the guardianship of certain rights and privileges held by the Court to have been granted conditionally by Letsie, subject to reversion at pleasure of his successor in office.

6. Were Lerothodi not so addicted to intemperance he would by his strength of character be well able to cope with the tribal opposition to which he is exposed. His weakness for drink affords opportunities to his opponents and causes discontent in the tribe as well as embarrassment to the Government, for, while protesting against the evils of it, his excessive indulgence offers a fatal example to others which is made the most of.

7. With regard to the latter subject, I much regret to state that it appears from the district reports that brandy smuggling has during the past year much increased along the Caledon river border, where a series of illicit houses continue to be kept by men of bad character on the Orange Free State side. We are much indebted to some of the border Landdrosts who equally condemn the objectionable traffic, and have exerted themselves, under instructions from their Government, to suppress it. I trust that the district officers in Basutoland, who are most assiduous in their efforts to encounter the evil, will be successful. From one of the returns appended to the Government Secretary's report, it will be seen that our police patrols, averaging three men in each, covered an estimated distance of 18,990 miles in search of persons contravening the Liquor and Pass Regulations, of whom 157 were prosecuted for offences under the clauses relating to them.

8. A renewal of the old-standing feuds amongst the Molapo family in Leribe took the form of an open rupture in August last between Joel and Matela, on which occasion two men were killed and some wounded. The case required special treatment, ending in imprisonment of certain men who provoked the disturbance. There were other serious brawls in the territory, resulting in death and injury to several people, but no grave complications occurred, and combined courts dealt with them satisfactorily.

9. These village fights resulting in homicide have latterly been so numerous that it has been found expedient, in accord with the expressed wish of the Paramount Chief, to visit those concerned by imprisonment in lieu of fines in the hope that this form of punishment will act as a deterrent.

10. Trade appears to have been very depressed in the early part of the year, owing to the destruction of crops by locusts, which caused a deal of poverty. A splendid autumn harvest, however, turned the tide and provided the people with abundance of food. The prices of grain consequently now rule exceptionally low, as shown in one of the enclosed returns, which includes also an approximate price list of all produce and stock.

11. In connection with the "hunger" period it is noticeable that the Basuto Chiefs took a new departure by way of adopting

"Boycotting." Being ignorant, as they are, of the laws of supply and demand, although Government officers have for years been trying to impress upon them how all nations are governed by such laws, it is hard for them to realize why, when their grain is plentiful and saleable at 5*s.* a bag only, it should not remain at that price when grain is scarce. In some instances last year a bag of mealies required absolutely for subsistence could only be repurchased from the traders by payment of a fat ox or the value of it. The traders had frequently to import grain at high cost to meet the native craving for food and did not as a rule profit much on their bargains. Still, the Basuto were so overcome by the mysterious change to their disadvantage in selling and purchasing prices that they were forbidden to sell Europeans certain necessaries of life, such as fuel, milk, etc., and when the new wheat crop was harvested the sale of it was forbidden by the chiefs under a value fixed by them. The boycott naturally broke down in time, as the traders were, of course, unable to pay more for wheat than the market warranted. This offered, while it lasted, a great impediment to trade and was injurious to the mercantile community as well as inconvenient to the public. In one case a son of Masupha so far misbehaved himself as to forcibly blockade the whole trade of one shop after the embargo had been removed. Failing to come to reason he was eventually summoned and fined.

12. The trading community have long and loudly complained of the disabilities under which they suffer by being almost entirely excluded from the great Transvaal grain markets on account of the prohibitory tariff imposed on Basutoland produce. This matter was brought to your Excellency's notice in September last by request of the Basutoland Traders' Association.

13. At the Annual Pitso in October last the people were strongly urged to endeavour by concerted action to attack locusts and destroy them. In a number of instances the advice was acted upon with signal effect, whole swarms being nearly exterminated by the following methods:—

(1.) Tramping the flying insects while torpid by herds of cattle.

(2.) Driving the voetgangers on to patches of cut grass and then burning.

14. The chiefs and headmen have as a rule behaved uncommonly well in regard to recovering stolen stock and bringing criminals to justice. The Chief Masupha gave considerable trouble by delaying unduly payment of his Hut Tax. The matter entailed a good deal of persuasion and pressure by the Resident Commissioner.

15. Proclamations having legislative effect were issued during the year:—

(1.) Relating to quarantine in connection with foot and-mouth disease.

(2.) Amending the pension regulations.

16. The effects of foot-and-mouth disease were not grave, but few cattle appear to have died from it, and no medical treatment was found necessary.

17. Government experienced a calamity in September by the total destruction through fire of the Quartermaster's stores, containing a good reserve of police equipment and other material, valued approximately at 2,500*l*. The principal Government buildings at Maseru are now insured.

18. In view of various representations, and particularly with the object of checking stock stealing, which had been reported from the East Griqualand border of the Cape Colony, it was found expedient to establish, in November last, a new station in the Mountain District at a spot about 20 miles from the town of Matatiele. Mr. C. Griffith, the officer stationed there, has done good initiatory work. His presence has been felt by stock thieves, and the general effect is undoubtedly beneficial. The site is about to be opened up to wagon communication, which may develop a new sphere of trade.

19. A separate report on education will be sent so soon as the returns are before me.

20. The returns of grain exported from Basutoland for the year ended 31st December 1892, viz., 87,658 bags, show a considerable falling off from the previous year, due to paucity of crops.

21. The figures showing 29,477 attendances at free dispensaries speak for themselves, and clearly illustrate how much the labour of the medical officers and the facilities afforded are appreciated.

22. It is satisfactory to observe from the return of lost stock that almost everything traced to Bastuoland was recovered.

23. The missionaries of all denominations continue to pursue earnestly and successfully their valuable civilizing and educational work.

24. I have the honour, in conclusion, to draw attention to the interesting and instructive report of the Acting Government Secretary and to bring to your Excellency's notice the good and effective services of the officers discharging the duties of the Administration.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. Y. LAGDEN,
Acting Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency the High Commissioner,
&c. &c. &c.
South Africa.

BASUTOLAND. 1892–93.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Basutoland, July 1, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the following reports on Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1893:—

Assistant Commissioner,	Leribe.
Do.	Berea.
Do.	Maseru.
Do.	Mafeteng.
Do.	Mohalies Hoek.
Do.	Quthing.
Medical Officer,	Maseru.
Do.	Mafeteng.
Do.	Mohalies Hoek.
Do.	Leribe.

The general statistics compare very favourably with those of preceding years.

In spite of the severe damages experienced from the ravages of locusts and other enemies of the crops last harvest season, which caused great depression in trade and suffering to the natives, the country continues prosperous, though grave anxiety existed when the Hut Tax became payable, owing to poverty and fears of a renewed bad harvest. The last wheat crops, however, survived, and being followed by abundant crops of mealies, the country is now well stocked with food, which Government officers are endeavouring to impress upon the people to be provident of in future.

In many cases the natives were so pressed for food that they consumed their supply of seed. In some of the worst districts relief works were organised on the public roads, in order that the poorest class might obtain a supply of seed. They were paid for their labour in grain, and these works were much appreciated.

In the spring some large swarms of locusts, which hatched out in the northern districts, were exterminated by the active co-operation of chiefs and people with the district officers. In various other parts of the country also the people were successful in destroying large numbers of the winged insects.

From the appended return it will be seen that the general Revenue has maintained itself, making due allowances for proportional increases. Some unnecessary and wilful delay occurred in certain districts in the payment of Hut Tax, and caused considerable inconvenience to the administration, inasmuch as such delays interfere with the execution of public work. This was most marked in the Berea district. The arrear Hut Tax collected during the year under report is considerably less than that collected the previous year. This points to a more perfected system of collection.

From the tabulated return of Lost Stock reported at the various offices during the year it will be seen that in nearly all cases

where the stock so reported has been actually traced into this territory, it has been recovered. The quantity of stock reported as lost, but which has not been traced into Basutoland, is remarkable, and must be attributed to the custom of the border farmers of reporting all instances of strayed stock as stolen. These people do not even take the trouble to report the recovery of their property, which, in some instances, is found on their own farms.

The statistics of crime display a large percentage of prosecutions for the contravention of the Liquor Regulations. In connection with this, I would refer to the return of patrols, and mileage estimated to have been travelled by Basutoland police, which shows an estimated patrollage of 18,990 miles. Although there is no very material increase in arrests for these offences, it is unfortunately notorious that brandy smuggling has much increased during the past year, chiefly along the central line of the Caledon river. Some of the leading chiefs, who should show a better example, are well known to have encouraged the traffic, and, in some cases, even to have connived at the sale of it in small quantities in the territory.

It appears from the district reports that a considerable number of canteens are carrying on this pernicious traffic along the border of the Orange Free State. The trade does not appear to be carried on on a large scale by the bulk of the illicit sellers, except in the border towns. Several persons have been prosecuted and fined in the Landdrosts' Courts, by the co-operation of our police; but this does not seem to deter them, as any fine is easily paid out of the immense profits made. On the Basutoland side, owing to the broken nature of the country and the sympathy of the population, it is most difficult for our police to discover and arrest the natives who smuggle the liquor across the border in bottles.

The Caledon river is, in the summer season, to some extent an effective barrier when in flood, but at this time of the year it is fordable at any point.

The Medical Officer at Leribe draws attention in his report to the large number of cases of wounds and bruises treated by him which are attributable to this deplorable taste for strong drink of both Native and European manufacture.

During the year 49,901 passes have been issued, of which 19,518 were to persons who left the territory in search of employment at the various mining centres and in the neighbouring territories. These people bring into the country large sums of money, the results of their labour. The balance left the country on visits and for various other purposes.

The strength of the Police is:—

Officers - - - - - -	10
European constables - - - -	10
Native non-commissioned officers - -	16
Native privates - - - - -	197

BASUTOLAND. 1891–92.

His Excellency the GOVERNOR and HIGH COMMISSIONER, Cape Town, to His Honour the RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, Basutoland.

Government House, Cape Town,
August 23, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 8th instant, containing your report on the progress of Basutoland during the past year.

I congratulate you and your officers on the good work accomplished, and the financial results achieved in face of the difficulties created by a bad harvest and the devastation caused by flights of locusts.

In order that measures may be taken to check, as far as possible, the devastation caused by the locust swarms, I have given instructions that you be supplied with the latest Government publications dealing with this question.

I desire also to express my appreciation of the good and loyal service rendered by the Paramount Chief Lerothodi, and I trust he will in the future continue to use every effort for the maintenance of peace and the promotion of prosperity amongst the Basuto people.

I regret, however, to notice that some of the Chiefs have shown a readiness to resort to arms for the settlement of disputes, and that they have been in some cases reluctant to support the authority of the Government. I desire, therefore, that you will inform the Chiefs that I have heard of their conduct with regret, the more so as the Basutoland Constitution places them in the position of Government officers, and I expected to receive from them a more cordial support of the Government of which they form a part.

I trust that in the future the Chiefs, as Government officers, will show a better example to the people.

The number of stolen stock not recovered, as reported in Mr. Bowker's report, is a reflection on the Chiefs and people. I wish for a detailed report on this subject from all the districts.

The spread of leprosy is a serious evil, and I desire that you will explain to the Chiefs the importance of a cordial co-operation for the segregation of lepers, and, if you consider such a course desirable, I will arrange for their removal to Robben Island.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,
Governor and High Commissioner.

His Honour Sir Marshal Clarke, K.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Schedule of Revenue collected in Butha Buthe Sub-district, Leribe District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount. £ s. d.
Hut Tax - - - - - - - -	1,219 3 0
Licences - - - - - - - -	122 0 0
Fines - - - - - - - -	0 5 0
Fees - - - - - - - -	0 13 6
Miscellaneous Receipts - - - - - -	1 0 0
Total - - - - - - - -	£1,343 1 6

(Signed) W. Boxwell,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

Schedule of Lost Stock Returns, Butha Buthe Sub-district, Leribe District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not Recovered.
Horses -	25	10	15	10	15
Cattle -	6	—	6	—	6
Sheep -	—	—	—	—	—

(Signed) W. Boxwell,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

Schedule of Number of Passes issued Butha Buthe Sub-district, Leribe District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Passes issued to persons seeking employment -	1,935
Passes issued to persons for other purposes -	5,056
Total - - - - -	6,991

(Signed) W. Boxwell,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

A murder was also committed in Matela's ward. In June a woman was found dead just outside her hut, her neck having been broken. A man has been arrested on suspicion for this murder; but it is very doubtful if he is the guilty man.

Six minor criminal cases have been tried at Butha Buthe during the year, and five civil cases have also been heard.

I am glad to be able to report that there has been again an increase in the amount of hut tax collected. It has this year reached the sum of 1,219*l.* 3*s.* 0*d.*, or about 100*l.* more than in any previous year. The total Revenue is also in excess of any other year by about 80*l.*, being 1,343*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* General traders' licenses reached 110*l.*, but there has been a great falling off in the number of hawkers' licenses.

Roads.

The roads in this ward are now in very good order. During the past year I have had the drift over the Qalo put in thorough repair and the Butha Buthe drift cut down, and the road to Sicuhu put in order. A short piece of road has been made in the Machabaneng. I have already submitted to you a report on the extension of that road.

Trade.

There are now eleven general traders' stores in this ward. For a considerable portion of the past year trade was very bad, and is still only fair.

Schools.

There are three schools in my ward receiving Government aid, two under the French Protestant Church, and one under the English Church. The total numbers on the books are 80 boys and 21 girls.

My relations with the Free State officials continue friendly, and those magistrates give me all the assistance in their power.

I subjoin list of Annual Returns, which I forward herewith.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. Boxwell,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

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ANNUAL REPORT, Sub-district BUTHA BUTHE, LERIBE DISTRICT, for Year ended 30th June 1893. BASUTOLAND. 1892–93.

General.

The year I regret to say, has not passed without disturbance. During July and the early part of August relations were very strained between the people of Matela and those of Joel who were still living in Matela's ward. On August 11th and 12th fighting took place between Mabine's men and Ntoana, and three or four people were killed. Ledoea also was attacked and ran away to the Free State. On August the 25th the Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief arrived in Thlotsi to try Ledoea and Ntoana, and others who had taken part in the fighting. Ledoea and Ntoana were fined and ordered to remove from Matela's ward. This order they at once obeyed, and thus one source of trouble in this district has been done away with.

In October the young locusts appeared in great numbers, and it was feared at one time that widespread damage would be done to the crops. Chiefs Joel, Ntsuu, and Molupi turned out their men and did good work in destroying the locusts, and the damage was confined to a very small area.

On November the 5th the foot-and-mouth disease was reported to have appeared on the Free State farms along the border. All the wagon drifts in this ward were watched and precautions taken as far as possible to prevent the disease from spreading into Basutoland. In spite, however, of all that could be done, the disease appeared among the cattle in this country, but fortunately caused little or no loss.

In March, 1893, Chief Motsoeni reported that some of his rope grass had been stolen, by Joel's people, it was said, and at first it was feared that this might lead to a disturbance between Jonathan and Joel, but it did not do so. The Paramount Chief sent up his brother to inquire into the matter, and as no evidence was found against Joel's people, the case dropped.

The crops have been very good indeed this year. More wheat is grown in this ward year by year. The Kaffir corn, which at one time was likely to be a failure, is, I think, above the average.

Crime.

I regret to have to report three cases of serious crime in this ward during the year. In May a fight took place in a village near this, and one man was killed, and in June another fight took place in Matela's ward, and a man was killed there also. The perpetrators of these crimes have been tried and punished.

Schedule of Number of Passes issued, Leribe District, for Year ended 30th June, 1893.

Passes issued to persons seeking employment -	3,044
Passes issued to persons for other purposes -	6,544
Total - - - - - -	9,588

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of Number of Licences granted, Leribe District, for Year ended 30th June, 1893.

General traders - - - -	24
Hawkers' licences - - - -	29
Hawkers' licences (free) - - - -	16

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of Civil and Criminal Cases, Leribe District, for the Year ended 30th June, 1893.

Civil cases - - - - -	8
Assault - - - - -	6
Contravention liquor regulations - - -	9
Contravention Pass Laws - - -	14
Resisting or assaulting police - - -	7
Theft - - - - - -	21
Rape - - - - - -	1
Trading without licence - - -	2
Contravention Customs Regulations - -	3
Contravention High Commissioner's Proclamation, re cattle quarantine - - - -	2
Offences against good discipline - - -	4
Attempt to corrupt a public officer - -	1
Culpable homicide (tried by combined court) -	4

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

The Chief Jonathan Molapo and other chiefs have given me the necessary assistance in the collection of Revenue and detection of crime.

The usual annual returns are attached.

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of Revenue collected in Leribe District for Year ended 30th June, 1893.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount. £ s. d.
Hut tax - - - - - - - -	4,841 18 0
Licences - - - - - - - -	388 12 6
Fines - - - - - - - -	139 14 0
Ferry tolls - - - - - - - -	23 3 6
Fees of Court or Office - - - - - -	4 6 6
Miscellaneous receipts - - - - - -	13 17 0
	5,411 11 6

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of Lost Stock Returns, Leribe District, for Year ended 30th June, 1893.

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses -	12	1	11	3	8
Cattle -	13	3	7	6	7
Sheep -	—	—	—	—	—

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND. 1892–93.

to take action beyond advising the Chiefs to come to an agreement based upon the delimitation of their rights as defined several years ago by the officers of the Colonial Government. I forward a report upon the schools receiving Government aid.*

I have not been able during the past quarter to make a very satisfactory inspection of the Schools, as during the harvest months the services of many of the children are required by their parents for reaping, and the attendance on the days of inspection has been below the average.

During the past season the Chiefs have to a great extent prohibited the sale of produce by the people to traders and others Europeans. They have probably been influenced partly by a feeling of resentment for the high prices charged at some stores for food stuffs during the period of scarcity before the wheat harvest, and partly by a desire to prevent their people from parting with necessary supplies of food for the coming months Since the cold season commenced and supplies of blankets and clothing have been required by the Basuto, this restriction has apparently been removed. Wheat has been sold for about 12s. a muid, mealies for 5s. per muid, and small quantities of Kaffir corn at about 10s. As the people were at all times allowed to sell sufficient produce to enable them to pay their taxes, very little stock and grain has been received in payment of hut tax.

While the restriction on the grain trade was in force, I have not considered it well to recommend the issue of new trading licences.

Notwithstanding quarantine regulations foot-and mouth disease made its appearance in the country in the summer, but occasioned little loss.

The damage to crops caused by locusts was trifling, and a quantity of these insects were destroyed in the early stages of their existence by the people co-operating under the direction of Government officers.

The crops have been above the average and the food supply is abundant.

An unfortunate result of the abundance of grain and consequent manufacture and consumption of native beer has been a number of drunken brawls at feasts and dances.

The medical officer in his report draws attention to the number of wounds and bruises inflicted at these beer drinks.

Four cases of culpable homicide arising from the fatal results of drunken fights with sticks have been dealt with by combined courts.

It has not been brought to my notice that any considerable amount of brandy is smuggled into the district.

The officers and police of the Orange Free State are active in suppressing any illicit liquor traffic and generally in co-operation with me in maintenance of law and order on the border.

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* Not printed.

Grain imported into Basutoland, 1892.

	Wheat.	Meal.	Kaffir Corn.
	849	8,146	3,747

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

Return of Attendances by Patients for treatment at the Government Dispensaries, Basutoland, for the year ended June 30, 1893.

Outdoor attendances.		In patients.	
1891–92.	1892–93.	1891–92.	1892–93.
21,807	29,337	105	140

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

LERIBE DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the Year ended June 30, 1893.

I entered upon the duties of Assistant Commissioner in this district on the 18th March 1893.

The fighting between the people of the Chiefs Joel and Matela, which took place in August 1892, and which is more fully alluded to in Mr. Boxwell's report, has not since been renewed.

The removal of a few of Joel's people from Matela's ground and the fines and imprisonment inflicted on those who took a prominent part in the disturbance, appear to have had a satisfactory effect in keeping the peace.

A dispute between the Chiefs Jonathan and Peete Lissavana as to ploughing rights in the neighbourhood of Dipeteng, has been reported to me, but it has not so far appeared to be necessary

BASUTOLAND. 1892–93.

Return of Civil and Criminal Cases heard in the various Assistant Commissioners' Courts in Basutoland during year ended June 30, 1893.

	No. of cases.
Theft - - - -	77
Assault - - - -	14
Assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm -	1
Culpable homicide - - -	8
Murder - - - -	1
Rape - - - -	1
Contravention of liquor regulations - -	120
Contravention of pass regulations - -	37
Contravention of quarantine regulations foot-and-mouth disease - - -	5
Resisting and assaulting police - -	15
Obstructing police - - -	1
Creating a disturbance - - -	1
Obstructing trade - - -	1
Contravention trading regulations, section 8 -	5
Contravention Customs regulations - -	4
Offences against good discipline - -	4
Attempt to corrupt public officer - -	1
Escaping from custody - - -	2
Contravention of firearm regulations -	6
Forgery - - - -	1
Housebreaking - - -	2
Embezzlement - - -	1
Contravention of reserve regulations -	2
Destroying public works - - -	1
Fraud - - - -	1
Breaking prison - - -	1
Total - - - -	313
Civil suits - - - -	14

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

Return of Grain Exported from and imported into Basutoland for the year 1892.

Grain exported from Basutoland.

During year 1891.				During year 1892.		
Wheat.	Mealies.	Kaffir Corn.	Oats and Barley.	Wheat.	Mealies.	Kaffir Corn.
95,132	66,327	1,915	331	66,280	20,180	1,192

Return of Number of Passes issued to Natives leaving Basutoland during the year ended June 30, 1893.

Number of Natives who obtained Passes to seek work.	Number of Natives who obtained Passes for other purposes.	Total number of Natives who obtained Passes.
19,640	30,261	49,901

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

Educational Return for the year ended June 30, 1893.

Total number of scholars on school registers - 7,140
Total number of schools - - - 122
Total amount expended on education during the year 1892–93 - - - £3,708

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

Return of Patrols performed by Basutoland Police during the year ended June 30, 1893.

Number of Patrols performed.	Number of Men engaged.	Estimated distance patrolled by collective patrols.	Number of arrests for contravention of Liquor and Pass Regulations.
633	1,773	18,990	157

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

Return of Revenue in detail for the year ended June 30, 1893.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount. £ s. d.
Hut tax - - - - - - - -	18,983 0 4
Post Office - - - - - - -	939 13 8
Licenses - - - - - - -	2,950 12 9
Fees of Court or Office - - - - - -	79 11 8
Miscellaneous receipts - - - - - -	191 15 1
	£ 23,044 13 6

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

Schedule of Lost Stock reported at the various district offices in Basutoland during the year ended June 30, 1893.

Description.	Reported lost.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced into Basutoland.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Remarks.
Horses* -	91	27	64	28	*Two were reported to have been recovered by owner on a neighbouring far...
Cattle -	150	60	90	52	
Sheep -	708	38	670	46	

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

Schedule of Number of Licences issued in the various districts of Basutoland during the year ended June 30, 1893.

General Traders.	Hawkers.	Free Hawkers.	Mill dam Licences.
128	82	76	2

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

BASUTOLAND. 1893-93.

The average local prices rule as follows for Basutoland produce :—

Wheat, 11s. per muid.
Mealies, 5s. per muid.
Kaffir corn, 10s. per muid.
Oats, 8s. per muid.
Forage, 20s. per 100 bundles.
Ponies, 100s. each.
Tobacco, 1s. per lb.
Cattle, 60s. each.
Sheep, 12s. each.
Goats, 6s. each.
Wool, 2d. to 4d. per lb.
Mohair, 6½d. per lb.
Hides, 3½d. per lb.

The Customs work, which was decentralised as a part of the district system, has been grafted on the general system of administration under the supervision of this office quietly and effectively, has been admirably worked, and is well looked after.

Foot-and-mouth disease having appeared among the cattle in the Free State, quarantine was proclaimed and traffic suspended. However the disease was introduced into Basutoland by a team of oxen which crossed the border a few days before the proclamation was issued. Attempts to isolate it were futile and it was then considered best to allow the disease to run its course through the country while it was still summer and pasturage good and cattle fat. The quarantine was suspended, and this proves to have been a wise step, for the disease, which attacked the cattle in a mild form, has nearly died out without having caused any serious loss.

It will be noticed from the medical officers' reports how enormously the work has grown at the free dispensaries. This shows conclusively how fully the work is appreciated by the Basuto who are learning to prefer European methods to their own superstitious and primitive treatment.

All the district establishments are conducted on a uniform system, which works smoothly and effectively.

I append the following statistical Returns :—

Return of revenue in detail.
" lost stock.
" licenses.
" passes.
" civil and criminal cases.
Educational return.
Return of patrols.
" exports.
" patients treated in free dispensaries.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

The conduct of the men is good, and their efficiency satisfactory.

A new police station has been established at Qacha's Nek, on the border between Basutoland and East Griqualand, under charge of an officer. This has had a very salutary effect in the suppression of stock thefts, the greater part of the population in that vicinity being Tembus, who are notorious thieves.

It is estimated from returns that there are about 189 lepers in the country. Tribal attempts to segregate them have been unsatisfactory, owing probably to the fact that the people do not fully realise the contagious nature of the disease.

It appears from the District Reports that the schools receiving Government grants have been visited during the year by Government officers, who report that they are in a satisfactory condition. The number of scholars on the books is 7,140, and the amount granted towards education is 3,708*l*. In the autumn months the daily attendance fluctuates very much, owing to the employment of the children in aiding to harvest.

The following useful and necessary Public Works have been carried out :—

Erection of Officers' quarters, Qacha's Nek.
" Gaoler's quarters, Maseru.
" Quartermaster's store, Maseru.
" Public offices, Berea.
" Stabling at officers' mess, Maseru.

Maintenance and fair repair of the principal roads and various repairs and alterations to existing buildings.

The repair of the roads is a difficult and costly undertaking, owing to the mountainous character of the country and the heavy annual rainfall.

Half the cost of about two miles of wire fencing on the Basutoland–Orange Free State border has been met.

The Quartermaster's store has been built to replace that which was unfortunately destroyed by fire in September last by accident, with all its contents — a full new equipment of uniform and saddlery for the police estimated at 2,500*l*.

The trade of the country, in spite of great depression during the early part of the year, has not been altogether bad. Great stocks of wheat and mealies are held by the traders awaiting a rise in value; in view of the probable visitation of locusts next year, and of the fact that a great deal of the Free State early wheat crop has already been demolished by these insects, cereals may realize very high prices next year.

The weed known as Xanthium Spinosum, or Burr weed, is rapidly increasing and spreading over the whole country, to the great detriment of the wool, and unless decisive steps are taken to eradicate it, that product will be of no commercial value.

The Customs Returns of Imports, were naturally affected in the first half of the year by the Basuto having no grain to trade, this being the purchasing power of the country.

BASUTOLAND. 1892–93.

Schedule of number of Licences granted, Butha Buthe Sub-district Leribe District, for the year ended 30th June 1893.

General traders - - - - -	11
Hawkers' licences - - - -	7
Hawkers' licences (free) - - - -	5

(Signed) W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

LERIBE DISTRICT.

Medical Officer's Report for the year ended 30th June, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that the health in this district has been good throughout the year, no epidemic disease having been observed.

The attendance at the public dispensary and hospital has been 3,851 cases, of which 3,275 were new ones. These numbers show an increase of 219 patients over last year's report, notwithstanding the epidemic influenza then prevalent, 750 cases more than the year ended 30th June 1891, and are a satisfactory proof of the growing confidence natives are gradually getting in Government hospitals. They, however, only apply to Jonathan's district, as Joel's men, for political reasons, refrain from mixing with the former's and are hardly ever seen at consultation hours.

Twenty-six cases have been admitted into the newly erected hospital, 20 for major operations (cataract, extractions, tumours, amputations) 3 for tertiary syphilis, 2 for acute rheumatism, and 1 for acute dysentery.

From the annexed table, showing the relative frequency of diseases, it may be seen that after ordinary digestive troubles, from which natives constantly suffer, rheumatism and bronchial affections are foremost and are doubtlessly caused by the tendency of raw natives to wear European clothing, which makes them less hardy to exposure.

The same cause as well as want of cleanliness applies to skin diseases, the blanket with its wide meshes forming a more suitable nidus for germs than the old smooth-surfaced bullock hide.

Wounds and bruises have been extremely frequent, nor does the number, 229, cover all the cases known. Beer drinking, resulting in free fights, have most to do with these casualties.

It may also be noted that syphilis is decidedly on the decrease, whether because the disease having been very prevalent at one time has lost its virulence, or perhaps natives are more alive to the treatment to follow in each case.

The 116 cases recorded do not, however, give a true statistic; many patients, having to walk long distances to get medicines, prefer to buy them in shops or elsewhere than to bring the patient himself to the hospital.

Gonorrhea is still prevalent, as well as other uterine ailments, among women.

Several cases of abortions, premature births, and impotence among men may be attributed to venereal diseases and sexual depravity.

Leprosy is more or less stationary; only four cases came to my notice this year.

Tubercular phthisis was detected in three cases, and seemed to have been acquired at the diamond fields.

The health of the mounted police has generally been good; a corporal died in hospital from acute dysentery.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. CASALIS,
Medical Officer.

The Assistant Commissioner,
Leribe.

BEREA DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the year ended 30th June 1893.

On the 10th April I took over the charge of the district from Sub-Inspector F. Enraght-Moony, who was Acting Assistant Commissioner.

The past year has been a quiet one in this district, and there is little of political importance to report.

There have been one or two slight disputes between the lesser Chiefs, but these either have been, or are now being, settled by the Chief Masupha.

In the earlier portion of the year the Chief Patse Mota, who was mentioned in last year's report as having left the district, returned to it and has been partially reinstated in his old position. Chief Masupha has informed me that he intends very shortly to go personally to the spot and arrange all disputed points.

Mooiketse Masupha, one of Masupha's minor sons, on account of a personal grudge, closed for a time the store of one of the traders in his ward. He was fined in this Court, but refused to pay unless the trader left. However, pressure being brought to bear on him, he paid his fine and the shop was re-opened.

The case attracted considerable notice, both among Europeans and Natives, being apparently regarded as a test case.

Seneka1 Masupha also a little later declined to restore a watch and 4*l.* sterling which he had seized from two natives of the Orange Free State who were suspected of wishing to abduct one of his women. He, however, eventually complied with the order of the Court.

With regard to the above question there appears to be much soreness caused among the Basuto by the working of the Free State law with regard to their women. They complain that should the women be seduced from their husbands into the Free State, they (their husbands) can obtain little or no redress according to the law of the Free State. This point the Chief Masupha and other Chiefs of the district continually complain to me of.

I regret to say that in the last few months there has been a serious revival of the brandy trade, although the border is constantly patrolled by police. The trade does not appear to be done by any one person on a large scale, but by numbers of different natives with a stock of a few bottles each.

The police detachment consists of:—

1 sub-inspector of police,
2 non-commissioned officers,
23 privates,
all mounted.

The heavy autumn rains have done some damage to the roads necessitating an extra grant, by aid of which I hope they will soon be in good order.

Dr. Savage, the Medical Officer at Maseru, in the early part of the year paid a few visits here, during which he vaccinated a considerable number of natives. Inquiry has shown that there are 63 lepers in the district.

In the early half of the year there was considerable distress and want owing to failure of last year's crops from ravages of locusts and other causes. The want was relieved on reaping the summer crop of wheat, and the mealie crop this winter is a very heavy one.

Grain prices rule locally as under:—

Wheat, per muid, 10*s.* to 12*s.*
Mealies, per muid, 4*s.* to 6*s.*
Kaffir corn, per muid, 18*s.* to 22*s.*

There has been remarkably little stock reported at this office as lost from the Orange Free State.

The following cases were heard in this court during the year:—

Civil cases	2
Theft	11
Contravention section 7 (Liquor)	9
„ Pass Regulations	6
„ section 8 (Trading)	3
Contravention Customs Regulations	1
Resisting police	5
Creating disturbance	1
Obstructing trade	1

Throughout the year the Orange Free State authorities have uniformly rendered every assistance.

The Revenue as regards hut tax compares rather unfavourably with that of last year. The Revenue for the year is as under:—

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax - - - -	2,755	14	0
Licences - - - -	277	0	0
Fines - - - - -	127	7	6
Fees of Court - - - -	1	9	0
Miscellaneous - - - -	1	13	0
	£3,163	3	6

The buildings on the station are in good repair, and new public offices will shortly be completed.

My report on the Government aided schools has already been sent separately.

(Signed) L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of number of Licences granted in Berea District for Year ended 30th June 1893.

General traders - - - - -	24
Hawkers' licenses - - - -	27
Hawkers' licences (free) - - - -	11

(Signed) L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of number of Passes issued, Berea District, for Year ended June 30th, 1893.

Passes issued to persons in search of work -	3,312
Passes issued to persons for other purposes -	4,216
Total - - - - -	7,528

(Signed) L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND. 1892–93.

Schedule Lost Stock Reports, Berea District, for Year ended June 30th, 1893.

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered
Horses - -	4	3	1	2	2
Cattle - -	13	—	13	—	13
Sheep - -	—	—	—	—	—

(Signed) L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

MASERU DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1893.

General.

Two matters of political importance arose during the past year, viz., the calling in of his late father's cattle by the Paramount Chief and a dispute as to the chieftainship over a tract of country known as Korokoro.

It had always been feared that the calling in of these cattle would lead to much trouble, if not actual fighting, owing to the reluctance of the younger sons to give up the cattle and their increase, some of which had been for many years in their caretaking, and last January the Chief Maama disregarded the Paramount Chief's order to produce those he was in charge of.

The trouble at Korokoro arose from the fact that during his life Letsie had been in the habit of employing Maama to settle such matters as arose in that neighbourhood and generally to perform on his behalf such acts of chieftainship as from time to time were necessary for the tribal government there. After Letsie's death Maama claimed the district as part of his own ward, alleging that it had been given to him by his father.

Both these matters, which indeed were closely connected with each other, came to a head about the same time, and were settled by the Resident Commissioner on 1st June.

I regret to say that liquor smuggling has increased of late. The liquor is sold at illicit canteens in the Orange Free State. Three persons keeping such canteens have been convicted and punished by the Landdrost's Court at Ladybrand by the co-operation of our police. Meanwhile every effort is being made to arrest persons bringing the liquor into Basutoland, but this can only be imperfectly done with the means at my disposal, owing to the long stretch of open border, some twenty miles in extent, over which brandy is brought in small quantities by horsemen. The Caledon river is sometimes a help in checking smuggling, but for months past it has been fordable anywhere, and so has ceased to be of much use as a barrier.

During the last four months of 1892 great scarcity prevailed in this district owing to the ravages of locusts in the early par of the year, and reported in my last year's report.

The mealie and Kaffir corn crop had been totally destroyed, and the people were reduced to great straits to provide themselves with food. Mealies had to be imported from Bechuanaland and elsewhere, and were sold to the natives at enormous prices. Cattle depreciated in value as the price of grain went up, and fat cattle were bartered for half a muid of mealies per head.

Early in the spring foot-and-mouth disease appeared in the Free State among the cattle, and quarantine was proclaimed.

The quarantine was, however, not successful in keeping the disease out of the country, and as soon as it appeared in Basutoland the quarantine was removed. The disease ran its course through the district, but did little or no damage owing to the time of the year at which it appeared. Had it been kept off until winter, when what little pasturage there is is hard and dry, heavy losses would have been sustained.

Large swarms of locusts appeared late in the autumn, but fortunately too late to damage the crops. There are still a quantity of them in the neighbouring districts of the Orange Free State, and I fear there is reason to apprehend a visitation from them or their descendants in the spring.

Population.

This has probably increased since last Census; it was then 45,402 souls.

Education.

I attach a report* on the schools receiving Government aid.

Commercial.

Trade has been very bad, but recently it has improved a little. This is satisfactory as far as it goes; but I fear there is little cause to hope that the improvement will continue as, in view of a possible visitation of locusts in the spring and summer, the natives will be afraid to part with their grain, and that is mainly the purchasing power of the country.

Public Works.

The roads in the district are in good repair.

Police.

The police force attached to my office consist of:—

2 Sub-inspectors.
2 European constables.
1 Native sergeant.
3 „ corporals.
46 „ privates and one gaoler.

I attach return of lost stock.

* Not printed.

Crime.

Serious crime continues to be rare. I append a list of cases tried in my court during the year:—

	Cases.
Theft	16
Housebreaking	3
Embezzlement	2
Fraud	1
Breaking prison	1
Contravening pass regulations	9
Contravening liquor regulations	13
Contravening firearms regulations	3
Assault	1
Manslaughter	1
Assaulting police	3
Obstructing police	1
Assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm	1
Contravening reserve regulations	1
Contravening foot-and-mouth disease proclamation	1

Revenue.

The revenue shows an increase on that of last year by 456*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.* The increase is in the Post Office, hut tax, and fines. The increase in the Postal Revenue, of 182*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.*, is mainly due to the establishment of a telegraph office. The increase in hut tax is 106*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* This would point to an increased population, although 43*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* of it is accounted for by profit made on the sale of stock and grain. It is interesting to note that the proportion of arrear hut tax becomes each year less, as, for instance, 621*l.* in 1890–91, 360*l.* 10*s.* last year, and 202*l.* this year.

I attach return of Revenue in detail.

Passes.

I attach return of passes issued.

Relations with bordering States.

Intercourse with the Orange Free State continues to be of a friendly nature, and I have pleasure in testifying to the cordial co-operation invariably afforded by the Landdrost of Ladybrand.

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Assistant Commissioner's Office,
Maseru, June 30, 1893.

Schedule of Revenue collected, Maseru District, for the Year ended 30th June 1893.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount. £ s. d.
Hut tax	3,964 18 4
Licences	251 0 0
Fines	402 4 6
Ferry tolls	239 9 9
Fees of Court or Office	70 1 11
Miscellaneous receipts	153 16 1
Postal revenue	939 13 8
	6,021 4 3

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of number of Licences granted, Maseru District, for the Year ended 30th June 1893.

General traders	22
Hawker's licences	6
Hawkers' licences (free)	4

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of number of Passes issued, Maseru District, for the Year ended 30th June 1893.

Passes issued to persons seeking employment	3,813
Passes issued to persons for other purposes	3,454
Total	7,267

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND. 1892-93.

Schedule of Lost Stock Returns, Maseru District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses - - -	26	4	22	4	*22
Cattle - - -	55	29	26	29	26
Sheep - - -	—	—	—	—	—

* Two recovered on owner's own farm in Orange Free State.

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL MEDICAL REPORT, 1892-93.

Office of Assistant Commissioner of Maseru,
July 1, 1893.

The health of the district for the last twelve months has been good, notwithstanding the increase of hospital and dispensary work.

There have been no epidemics. Eleven cases of typhoid fever and 11 of dysentery came under my notice, none, however, being fatal, and I heard of no other cases of zymotic disease. Influenza was extremely prevalent during the year, especially in the months of August and September; 290 cases were treated, all mild in type and uncomplicated, though more severe than last year. There were no deaths

In January, November, and December there were a great many cases of a skin disease called lekhoekhoe by the natives, an eruption of boils or pustules, due to a great extent from poverty of blood, brought on by scarcity of food and restricted diet, though no cases of actual starvation were reported to me.

Ophthalmia was very prevalent in May and April, 337 cases were seen at the Dispensary. There was a marked diminution in the number of cases of mocaula or syphilis treated at the Dispensary, 477 cases compared with 644 during last year. This yearly decrease in the percentage of cases shows that treatment has proved very effectual in checking the spread of the disease; habits contributing more to the spread of the disease than immorality.

Only one fresh case of leprosy appeared at the Hospital, but I visited a colony of nine lepers at Hangers Drift, all Bastards; the disease, originally brought from the Colony through the Free

State, had spread from one to another. They were separated from the other people who lived near by.

Eleven cases of phthisis were treated at the Dispensary, being very few in proportion to the number of attendances.

The health of the police and prisoners in gaol has been good, though one of the former died suddenly.

Hospital and Dispensary attendances :—

Outdoor new cases - - - -	6,150
Subsequent attendances - - - -	1,000
Indoor new cases - - - -	66
Indoor attendances - - - -	1,148

There were no deaths in Hospital, most of the cases being surgical.

On receiving the news of an outbreak of small-pox at Johannesberg an arm-to-arm vaccination was commenced at Maseru, and all unvaccinated persons in the village were vaccinated, as well as a great many from the surrounding villages—over 1,500. I also visited Teyateyaning once a week for a month and vaccinated over 500 people there. But no small-pox appearing in Basutoland the people lost interest in the process and ceased to return after being vaccinated ; the supply of lymph ran short and the general vaccination stopped. But I think that it would be expedient to recommence vaccination as soon as we can obtain sufficient and reliable lymph ; that lymph also be supplied to all the missionaries, who are quite able to propagate the lymph, so that all who are willing may be vaccinated as soon as possible. The Basuto, who have well learnt the benefits conferred by successful vaccination at the last outbreak of small-pox in the country, are quite willing, if not anxious, to be vaccinated in order to avoid the disease.

I have, &c.

(Signed) S. RADFORD SAVAGE,
Medical Officer.

MAFETENG.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1893.

I. On the 9th February 1893 the Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief held a meeting at Makeneng to instal Letsie Lerothodi as Chief of Mafeteng District. Suitable counsellors were at the same time appointed to assist the young Chief in dealing with such cases and questions as may be brought before him. Subsequently the Resident Commissioner appointed Letsie a Native officer in the Basutoland Police.

Surrounded as he was by flatterers and persons anxious to gain his favour, Letsie, on first finding himself in a somewhat independent position, showed an inclination to disregard the

advice of his officially appointed councillors and to assert himself and, consequently, when dealing with Native questions, he committed several indiscretions.

I availed myself of every opportunity to warn Letsie against listening to bad advisers, and I am now glad to report that I have latterly noticed a marked improvement in his behaviour.

II. In February an old-standing boundary dispute resulted in an affray between some people of Chief Seiso and Leluma; one man died from wounds received in the disturbance and several other men sustained severe injuries.

This case was tried by a combined court, and the combatants, 47 in number, were sentenced to pay fines, compensation being awarded to the relatives of the man who died from injuries received in the affray.

Two other boundary quarrels occurred between Seiso and his neighbours during the past year; one at Ramoetsana's and another at Pitso Mafa's; these latter were of a more trivial nature and were adjusted by the Paramount Chief, who at the same time defined the boundaries.

During March another old dispute, relative to reeds and reserve grass, was renewed between Mojela Letsie and Azariel Mokochane, and both chiefs sent out armed parties to protect their rights, but collision was averted by timely advice, and the disputed boundary has since been more clearly defined.

III. Towards the end of March the dead body of a Fingoe, formerly residing in Khaba's village, Chief Seiso's ward, was found tied with reims and concealed in a deep hole in the Cornet Spruit. The man had evidently been murdered, and suspicion was directed to two men living in Khaba's village; but before they could be arrested these men absconded, and although diligent inquiries have been made no trace of the fugitives has yet been discovered.

IV. I have much pleasure in acknowledging the efforts of the officers of the Orange Free State Government in endeavouring to stop the illicit sale of brandy in their districts, particularly in the town and District of Wepener. Several illicit brandy sellers have been convicted in the Orange Free State Courts for selling liquor to natives, but as they make large profits the punishment does not appear to deter them, and illicit canteens are still as numerous as they were last year.

I submit that the root of the evil would appear to exist principally in the town of Wepener, where the hotel proprietors not only supply some of the Border canteen-keepers with brandy, but also sell largely to Basutoland natives.

As every facility is offered to the Basuto residing near the Wepener border to buy brandy, it has now become quite a recognised custom to have it at most feasts and dances, when it is mixed with the native beer, and the result is most disastrous to those who drink the liquor.

It is evident that the people residing along the western border of this district are becoming impoverished, and that one-third of them are drunkards. The habitual brandy drinkers use every precaution while smuggling spirits into the country, and although the Basutoland Border was vigilantly patrolled by mounted police, only eighty-seven (87), a small proportion of the smugglers, were arrested in this district during the past year.

V. The Chiefs in this district have rendered me great assistance in tracing lost or stolen stock and in detecting crimes and offences.

VI. The crops of 1892 were almost entirely eaten up by swarms of locusts; consequently there was great scarcity of food, almost amounting to famine, and the price of mealies rose as high as 35*s.* a muid.

The people had not much money, and it was estimated that 3,000 head of cattle were received by traders in exchange for grain brought from North Basutoland, Orange Free State, and Cape Colony.

In September, 1892, I was authorised by the Resident Commissioner to establish relief works on the public roads to enable the poorest class of natives to obtain grain for food and seed. The result was most satisfactory, and numbers of natives availed themselves of the opportunity and worked willingly for grain.

VII. The last season's crops were very good, and food is now plentiful in all parts of this district.

The following are the ruling prices for Basutoland produce and stock :—

Wheat, 12*s.* per muid
Mealies, 6*s.* 6*d.* per muid.
Oats, 6*s.* per muid.
Barley, 7*s.* per muid.
Kaffir corn, 13*s.* per muid.
Oat hay, 20*s.* per 100 bundles.
Goats, 5*s.* to 7*s.*
Wool, 4*d.* per lb.
Mohair, 9*d.* per lb.
Basuto tobacco, 9*d.* per lb.
Hides, 3½*d.* per lb.
Horned cattle, 2*l.* to 4*l*
Sheep, 7*s.* to 12*s.*
Basuto ponies, 3*l.* to 6*l.*

VIII. The Free Dispensary was well attended during the past year; I attach a report from the Medical Officer. A Return of persons supposed to be afflicted with leprosy is being framed, with a view to ameliorating their condition, and when this return

is completed it will be submitted to the Medical Officer for his report.

IX. Road parties were constantly employed on the public roads, which are now in fair order.

A new hospital ward was built, and all the Government buildings which required repair have received attention.

X. Government officers have inspected the 26 aided schools in this district, and the work of education is making satisfactory progress.

XI. The civil and criminal cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court, were as follows :—

Cases tried by combined court - -	3
Civil actions - - - - -	4
Thefts - - - - -	20
Assaults - - - - -	6
Contravening Proclamation Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Quarantine Regulations - -	1
Contravening section 7 Liquor Regulations -	87
Contravening section 6 Pass Regulations -	1
Escaping from custody - - -	1
Contravening section 19 Basutoland Regulations	3
Cases dismissed - - - -	4

XII. The total revenue amounted to 3,908*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*, which shows a decrease of 12*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.* when compared with the collection of 1891–92. There was an increase in all receipts except hut tax, and the falling off in the latter can be accounted for by the fact that less arrear tax was paid in 1892–93 than during the previous year.

XIII. I attach schedules as under :—

Medical Officer's Report.
Return of lost and stolen stock.
Return of revenue.
Return of hawkers' licences.
Return of licensed traders.
Return of passes issued.

(Signed) T. P Kennan,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of number of Passes issued, Mafeteng District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Passes issued to persons seeking employment	4,130
Passes issued to persons for other purposes	4,336
Total	8,466

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of number of Licences granted, Mafeteng District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

General traders	20
Hawkers' licenses	9
Hawkers' licenses (free)	34

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of Revenue collected, Mafeteng District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax	3,467 9 0
Licences	209 0 0
Fines	213 11 0
Fees	6 18 6
Miscellaneous	11 3 0
	£3,908 1 6

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND. 1892-93.

Schedule of Lost Stock Returns, Mafeteng District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses - -	11	8	3	8	3
Cattle - -	20	17	3	13	7
Sheep - -	—	—	—	—	—

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner

Office of the Assistant Commissioner
of Mafeteng, July 1, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the following Report of medical work done in this district during the past year.

The number of persons treated in the Government dispensary was 4,640; of these 3,032 were adults, and 1,608 children and infants.

The total number of attendances, including repetitions, was 8,879. Seventy-two patients were admitted into hospital; of these five died. Syphilis still continues to be very prevalent. Five hundred and fifty persons, as against 521 last year, were under treatment for this disease. The large proportion of cases of digestive trouble was also remarkable.

Three hundred and fifty-nine minor and seven major operations were performed.

Though only 13 cases of leprosy have come under my notice, there appears to be some reason to suppose that this does not represent anything like all the cases in the district. A return is being made of all suspected cases. They will then be medically examined.

The health of the police, prisoners in the local gaol, and the community generally has been good.

No epidemic of infectious disease has visited the district.

I have, &c.

The Assistant Commissioner, Mafeteng.

(Signed) W. M. EATON,
Medical Officer.

MOHALES HOEK DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1893.

I.—Since my last annual Report the political attitude of the district has undergone but little change.

Owing to the ravages of the locust pest last year to the grain crop, a great scarcity of food was experienced in the district during the winter months, and starvation was averted by the importation of grain from Bechuanaland, prices for which rated very high on account of the great distance and high rate of carriage.

Few disturbances of importance have taken place during the past year.

On the 15th January last a fight took place between Tsepo Potsane and Liboua over disputed Maboella, in which two of Liboua's men were so badly wounded that they both died shortly after. The case was tried by the Resident Commissioner at Potsane's Village on the 13th February last, when Tsepo was fined thirty head of cattle.

I was sent with the native Chiefs Seeiso, Setha, Letsie and others to have the disputed line properly fixed before witnesses. This was done the same day.

A similar case is now under investigation that happened at Mako's recently.

In the early part of this year the district was again visited by locusts, but owing to the abundance of green grass, no material damage was done to the growing crops.

Much difficulty has been experienced in the collection of hut tax, and the usual amount not yet got in.

II.—Relations with the neighbouring States continue satisfactory.

A great desire on the part of the border farmers for fencing the line is evident, and there is no doubt that should this most desirable object be attained it will greatly benefit both States.

The illicit sale of liquor on the border still continues in spite of the efforts made for its suppression.

III.—An increase in the population is apparent. The mountain portion of the district is fast filling.

IV.—The crops throughout the district have been very good. Wheat, mealies, and Kaffir corn are abundant at reasonable prices. In the mountains the natives have had enormous crops of mealies and Kaffir corn.

V.—The school at Potsane's village has been reopened during the year and promises well.

All other schools were inspected.

VI.—I have heard of no complaints from traders.

A considerable amount of business was done in grain imported by the traders owing to the great scarcity last winter; this importation was a great boon to the district as at about that time we

were threatened with famine; which was averted by the above means.

A large quantity of grain has been exported since the harvest this season; grain has been exceptionally plentiful.

General trading licences - - - -	13
Hawkers' licences - - - - -	4
Dam licences - - - - -	2
Free licences - - - - -	6

VII.—The free dispensary has been much appreciated and many important surgical cases successfully treated. For particulars *see* Medical Officer's Report.

VIII.—The following is an extract from the criminal records and speaks for itself:—

The Chiefs continue to assist in the suppression of crime.

Theft - - - - - - -	6
Assault - - - - - -	1
Contravening regulations - - -	7

IX.—Labour has been plentiful, and many passes issued for natives seeking employment:—

Seeking employment - - -	1,989
For the purpose of visiting, &c. -	1,984

X.—The roads are in good order; road parties have been kept at work repairing and improving when necessary.

XI.—*Revenue.*

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax - - - -	2,796	0	0
Licences - - - -	207	12	9
Fees of Court - - -	2	10	6
Special receipts - - -	7	0	6
Total - -	3,013	3	9

(Signed) J. W. BOWKER,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule Lost Stock Reports, Mohales Hoek District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses - -	2	—	2	—	2
Cattle - -	16	4	12	—	16
Sheep - -	326	—	326	8	318

(Signed) J. W. BOWKER,
Assistant Commissioner.

Mohales Hoek Medical Officer's Report for the Year ended 30th June 1893.

The appended return shows a considerable increase in the number of patients treated during the past year.

—	1891-2.	1892-3.
Out-patients. New cases - -	2,858	4,500
„ Old cases - -	1,221	2,809
In-patients - - - -	50	76
Totals - - - -	4,129	7,385

An analysis of the diseases treated shows still a large percentage of syphilitic cases, especially those of a hereditary nature.

An epidemic of chicken-pox broke out during the early part of the year, but although a very large number of people were infected there were no deaths.

The in-patient department, which may be regarded as the most satisfactory part of the work performed by the medical officer, though showing an increased number of patients admitted compared with last year, was, however, much restricted, partly for lack of room and partly owing to the smallness of the grant available for the work in question.

The general health of the station has been satisfactory, and no cases of infectious disease have been noted.

BASUTOLAND. 1892-93.

The subject of leprosy has occupied considerable attention, but only two patients suffering from that disease have presented themselves for treatment.

(Signed) EDW. C. LONG,
Medical Officer.

DISTRICT OF QUTHING.

Annual Report for the Year ending 30th June 1893.

General.

On looking over the records of this office for the past year, the first event of importance appears to have been the establishment of a police station, in permanent charge of an officer, at Qatcha's Nek, on the water divide between this district and East Griqualand, about four hours on horseback from the township of Matatiele.

This was done to ensure effective supervision of the more remote portions of the district, and was an immediate consequence of certain unauthorised acts on the part of the Chief Mpiti Makwai which might have led to complications with the East Griqualand authorities. This arrangement is exercising a salutary check on stock thefts, and facilitates the collection of hut tax in that quarter.

II.—At the end of March last I returned to this district, after upwards of six years absence, during which time I was in charge of the district of Leribe.

Since my return sundry persons who were located by me in this district under orders from the Cape Colonial Government, during the years 1882–3, have brought complaints of having been deprived, by the Chief Nkwebe or his deputies, during the past six years, of various rights of pasturage, use of arable lands, &c., which they were put in possession of under the Cape Government. Several of these complaints have been referred to the Resident Commissioner, and others are in process of investigation.

A son of Letsie has been located on the Mission Station at Masitisi against the wishes of the missionary in charge and the local headman; and even on the Government reserve several villages have been placed, and lands given out for cultivation, by the Chief Nkwebe Letsie, to a number of persons from the Cornet Spruit district.

A protest has recently been lodged by the Tembu Chief, Stock Tyali, against the locating of a son of Letsie, called Tsoeni, in his ward without his consent. Several other inferior sons of Letsie have found their way into the district, where they are trying to obtain recognition as chiefs at the expense of the local headmen.

III.—Considerable friction exists between Nkwebe, who was the late Paramount Chief Letsie's representative in the district, and Nehemiah Moshesh, who was located here under the Colonial

Government about the end of the year 1882. Nehemiah complains that Nkwebe ignores his rights in connection with a certain wooded valley in his ward, and that he sends his men to cut down trees there without reference to him; and Nkwebe, on the other hand, asserts that the valley in question is used by Nehemiah as a hiding place for lost or stolen stock.

A recent dispute between these chiefs arose out of Nehemiah's son, Philip, constituting himself custodian of certain stray horses, which he said he had found.

Nkwebe sent an order to another son of Nehemiah's called Maseribane to seize these horses, which he suspected were stolen; and on Maseribane carrying out this order, Philip, after recapturing the horses, seized a number of Maseribane's cattle; and now Philip declines to attend Nkwebe's court when summoned, and Nehemiah refuses to send him.

These appear trivial matters on paper, but similar cases have before now lead to the Basuto taking up arms against one another, and the practice which prevails among the chiefs throughout the country of treating derelict stock as their perquisite, instead of handing it over to the proper authorities, is liable to abuse, and should be put a stop to.

IV.—The strained relations which recently existed between the Paramount Chief and his brother Maama, caused some excitement in this district, where the principal Chief, Nkwebe, who is supposed to favour Maama, was plainly told by some of the old-established headmen, that they would not follow him if he took up arms against the Paramount Chief, who was supported by the Government.

V.—Some doubt exists as to the exact locality of the border line between this district and the Cape Colony, at the source of the Telle River, near New England. The Baphuti Chief Moeletsi Tsekoa, whose ward is on the Upper Telle, and who was an important counsellor of Morosi, asserts that a certain kloof, known locally as Maqatsanyane, forms the line at this point; but this can doubtless be settled by reference to the surveyors who set up the border beacons.

Agriculture.

The crops of maize and Kaffir corn are exceptionally good this year, and a considerable quantity of wheat was raised last season. Locusts are present, but not in large numbers. Should they breed here they may give trouble next year.

Burrweed has spread enormously in the last few years, and will require strong measures if it is to be eradicated. Foot-and-mouth disease has not been very destructive to stock hitherto. If the cattle attacked are in good condition they seem to get it in a modified form; but as they fall off in condition in the winter, the losses will probably be greater. The increased area under cultivation consequent on the large influx of population from other parts of Basutoland naturally diminishes the pasturage, and affects the general condition of the stock.

Relations with Bordering States.

Official relations with the neighbouring districts of the Cape Colony and East Griqualand have generally been of a satisfactory nature.

The working of the Quarantine Regulations to prevent the spread of foot-and-mouth disease has caused some inconvenience to individuals, which was in most cases unavoidable.

Public Works.

The public buildings at this station are in bad order and require repair.

The waggon roads, from the mountainous nature of the district, require constant attention, being liable to be washed into gullies in a few hours after rain; and the ledges of rock which crop out everywhere render the making of smooth travelling roads almost impossible. The Basutoland Government has gone to great expense in constructing a waggon road up the valley of the Quthing river, in order to connect with the one commenced some years ago by the Cape Government, to cross the Drakensberg at the pass known as Ongeluk's Nek. In consequence of the stoppage of this work on the East Griqualand side of the mountains our portion of the road has not been carried beyond the foot of the pass on the Basutoland side; and for some time the expenditure on it has been simply to keep the existing portion in passable order.

Trade.

There are fourteen trading stations in the district, and licences have lately been asked for for two others. The transport question is the great drawback to trade, the trying nature of the roads tending to keep carriers away.

Education.

There are ten Government aided schools in this district.

Medical.

There is no resident medical officer in Quthing. A dispensary was started here, under the charge of the medical officer of Mohale's Hoek, but it was found impossible for him to attend satisfactorily to both districts, so his visits have ceased. It is very desirable that a doctor should be provided for Quthing, the nearest medical aid being some 35 miles distant.

Population.

The population of the district is about 20,000.

Passes.

The passes granted at this office during the past year were as under:—

Ordinary passes - - - -	3,556
For natives seeking work - - -	1,295

Police.

The police detachment at this station is in an efficient state, and the various duties are satisfactorily performed.

It may not be out of place here to remark that farmers, and others who send reports of stock lost to these stations, seldom take the trouble to send word if the stock is subsequently found, as occasionally happens, on their own farms. Consequently schedules of lost and stolen stock are apt to show a great preponderance of stock reported lost, over those recovered. It does not follow that stock so reported, always finds its way to this territory.

Police Cases.

The cases tried in the Court of the Assistant Commissioner during the past year are as follows:—

Murder	1
Theft	3
Contravention of trading regulations	1
„ Pass „	2
Escaping from custody	1
Forgery	1
Breach of reserve regulations	1
Destroying Public Works	1

Revenue.

The following collections were made during the year, as per schedule annexed:—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut Tax { Cash, 1,044*l.* 10*s.* / Grain, 601*l.* 0*s.* }	1,645 10 0
Licences	154 0 0
Judicial fines	5 12 0
Fees of office	3 7 3
Ferry tolls	187 19 3
Special receipts	2 16 0
	1,999 4 6

The report of the officer in charge at Qacha's Nek is attached.

(Signed) S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

Quthing, June 30, 1893.

BASUTOLAND. 1892–93.

Schedule of Lost Stock Reports, Quthing District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not Traced.	Recovered.	Not Recovered.
Horses - -	10	1	9	1	9
Cattle - -	20	—	20	—	20
Sheep - -	347	27	320	27	320

(Signed) S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

Office of the Officer in Charge,
Qacha's Nek, June 30, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit my report for the period 14th November 1892 to the 30th June 1893.

General.

Towards the end of October 1892 the Resident Commissioner decided to establish a permanent station here, and on the 14th of the following month I was placed in charge under command of the Assistant Commissioner, Quthing.

The establishment proves a great boon to the natives living in the mountains, and was much welcomed by the Resident Magistrate of Matatiele.

The chiefs living in the Orange River valley belonging to the Maseru District are allowed to pay their taxes here. This was done in consequence of the great distance they are from Maseru and in, comparatively speaking, easy range from this place.

There are numbers of Zulu families from Natal and Tembu from the Transkeian territories residing in the mountains. These latter people are notorious thieves, and, as tracing of stolen stock, &c. is difficult work in the mountains, it would in my opinion be advisable that they be located elsewhere in Basutoland, and away from the border. Any others desiring to c .ne into the country not allowed.

Several herds of cattle were attacked by the foot-and-mouth disease, but with no fatal results in any instance. No cattle are allowed into East Griqualand from Basutoland, on account of the disease, and small detachments of Cape Mounted Rifles are stationed along the border to enforce the quarantine regulations.

Voetgangers were reported by the Chiefs Ledingoana and Letaba in their wards. They were, I am pleased to say, exterminated by the people before doing any damage to the young crops.

The season's crops of Kaffir corn and mealies are very fair. They are never really good, frosts falling so very early.

The wheat crop was good, and does well in these cold regions. The Chiefs Ledingoana, Rafalatsane, and their people depend almost entirely on wheat for subsistence.

In dealing with thefts and tracing of thieves and stolen stock the chiefs have rendered me every assistance.

There have been no differences between the chiefs under my direct supervision, and their relations appear to be friendly.

Commercial.

Trade is very fair. Wheat is fetching an average price, mealies and Kaffir corn next to nothing. Wool is from at 3*d.* and 2*d.* a lb.

There is one licensed trading station in the ward, and a second is in course of erection. Our markets are Matatiele and Kokstad.

Public Works.

There are no roads in the ward. It is proposed to construct a waggon road from Strachan's shop, which is on the border in Matatiele, to this station. This is necessary to admit of waggons coming in. The present mode of conveyance is by pack-animals and sledges.

Police.

The small detachment of police stationed here do their work satisfactorily.

Crime.

Serious crime is rare. Two cases of theft and one of culpable homicide have come to my notice. The thefts were committed before the permanent establishment of this station. No cases have occurred since.

Revenue.

A detailed return of Revenue collected during the period under report is attached.

Passes.

Ordinary passes - - - - -	1,115
Work „ - - - - -	122

Relations with Bordering States.

Relations with bordering States are satisfactory. The Resident Magistrate, Matatiele, has always afforded me every assistanc when necessary in tracing and recovering thieves and stolen stock.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) C. GRIFFITH,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police,
Officer in Charge.

Schedule of Revenue collected, Qacha's Nek Sub-district, Quthing District, for Year ended June 30, 1893.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax - - - - - - -	187 10 0
Licences - - - - - - -	3 0 0
Fines - - - - - - -	13 11 0
Fees - - - - - - -	0 2 6
	204 3 6

(Signed) C. GRIFFITH,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

Schedule of Lost Stock Returns, Qacha's Nek Sub-district, Quthing District, for Year ended June 30, 1893.

Description	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses -	1	—	1	—	1
Cattle - -	7	4	3	4	3
Sheep - -	35	11	24	11	24

(Signed) C. GRIFFITH,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

Schedule of Number of Licenses granted, Qacha's Nek Sub district, Quthing District, for Year ended June 30, 1893.

Hawkers' licenses - - - - - 3

(Signed) C. GRIFFITH,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

Enclosure No. 2.

From His Excellency the HIGH COMMISSIONER, Cape Town, to His Honour the ACTING RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, Basutoland.

Government House, Cape Town,
August 11, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 31st July reporting on the progress of Basutoland during the past year.

I consider the report shows satisfactory progress on most subjects, and I desire that my appreciation of the work performed by Sir Marshall Clarke, by yourself, and the officers of Basutoland be generally notified.

I request, however, that the attention of the chiefs and people be drawn to the continued prevalence of crimes of violence due to tribal quarrels, and desire that they be informed in my opinion a chief who takes up arms or allows his people to resort to violence instead of proceeding to the courts shows himself neglectful of the trust reposed in him as an officer of the Government. You will make my opinion on this point generally known at the annual pitso.

I desire also that attention may be called to the increased smuggling of liquor, and that the co-operation of all the chiefs and people be invited to assist in the suppression of an evil which, if not checked, will bring about the moral and physical destruction of the Basuto nation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,
Governor and High Commissioner.

His Honour the Acting Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 123.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 1893-94.

(For Reports for 1892-93, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 89.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
87	Falkland Islands	1892
88	Gold Coast	,,
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	,,
92	Mauritius	,,
93	Labuan	,,
94	British Honduras	,,
95	Lagos	,,
96	Sierra Leone	,,
97	Fiji	,,
98	Rodrigues	,,
99	St. Helena	,,
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	,,
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	,,
107	Hong Kong	,,
108	St. Vincent	,,
109	Gibraltar	,,
110	Bahamas	,,
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
112	Leeward Islands	,,
113	Barbados	,,
114	Malta	,,
115	Zululand	,,
116	British Honduras	,,
117	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 123.

BASUTOLAND.

[For Report for 1892–93, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 89.]

Sir W. G. CAMERON to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Cape Town,
September 1, 1894.

MY LORD MARQUESS,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch from the Acting Resident Commissioner of Basutoland, enclosing the Annual Reports on the Territory for the year to 30th June last.

These reports require little comment from me. There have been the usual proportion of disputes between minor chiefs, which have been satisfactorily settled by Mr. Lagden and his officers, to whom credit is due for their efforts in every branch of the administration. On the difficulties which have arisen between the Paramount Chief and his brother Maama I have addressed your Lordship in separate despatches.

I desire, however, to express to your Lordship my appreciation of the loyal co-operation afforded by the Government and officers of the Orange Free State in the suppression of the illicit liquor traffic, and I would be glad to receive an expression of your Lordship's acknowledgments for communication to his Honour the State President.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. G. CAMERON, General,
Administrator and High Commissioner.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Basutoland, August 8, 1894.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency a report upon British Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1894, covering copies of report by the Acting Government Secretary, enclosing those of the Assistant Commissioners and Medical Officers in duplicate.

BASUTOLAND. 1893–94.

2. In my last Annual Report I alluded to the character displayed by Lerothodi since his assumption of the office of Paramount Chief, of some of the difficulties that beset him, and of his partiality for drink. In tracing the features of the past twelve months, I am glad to begin by stating that Lerothodi has, to the best of my belief, made a powerful effort to eschew liquor himself and to co-operate in checking and punishing the introduction of it. He has at times been tempted by others to give way, but the occasions have been comparatively few.

He has had again to contend with considerable opposition from a large section of younger brothers, led by Masupha, whose aim may have been to wean themselves from the Paramount Chief's authority and clutch at independence. But there is nothing extraordinary in such aspirations. It is quite natural that the Chiefs of a present generation should aspire to assert themselves, in view of the fact that a younger generation of the Paramount House are coming on who might be expected in time to endeavour to supersede their elders in the same way that the sons of Letsie supplanted the sons of Moshesh.

Throughout the year there has been a running vein of unrest pervaded by this idea, the object of Lerothodi being possibly to circumscribe the rights of his juniors and of his juniors to establish themselves more firmly. A petition, in July 1893, addressed to Sir M. Clarke for transmission to the High Commissioner, setting forth the grievances of the younger sons against Lerothodi, signed by many of them, as well as by Masupha, was illustrative of the general drift of feeling at that time. The Chief Jonathan Molapo, whose powerful influence for good can be usefully exerted, holds aloof to a great extent from tribal affairs and assumes a *laissez faire* attitude.

3. The first political event of consequence was the renewal of a dispute of some years' standing, relative to a reed-bed and other rights adjacent to Masupha's village at Thaba Bosigo. The land in dispute came originally within the rights given to Theko, third son of Letsie; but by tacit consent Masupha had for years exercised chieftainship over this land and sought to make it perpetual in the interests of his own children. To this Theko objected, being supported by Lerothodi and the elder branch of the family, while Masupha enlisted the sympathy of Maama and some of the younger sons. A good deal of unnecessary clamour was raised over it, guns were taken up, and the Paramount Chief compromised the situation by prematurely announcing a decision without hearing the parties who had appealed to him. Simultaneously, Masupha cut and seized the reeds in a demonstrative manner. The matter was then deposited in my hands, whereupon I dismissed those under arms and summoned a Pitso of parties concerned, together with other Chiefs and Councillors. My object was, by family deliberation to induce a mutual settlement. This was successful. Theko publicly agreed to let Masupha continue during lifetime the rights

he had been tacitly allowed to exercise, without prejudice to his (Theko's) proprietary rights.

4. Following upon the settlement of the preceding matter, there ensued several months of continuous friction between the Paramount Chief Lerothodi and Maama regarding land questions where their respective tenements lay contiguous to each other.

At a Pitso of the nation held by Sir M. Clarke in June 1893, it was decided that a certain locality known as Korokoro pertained to the chair of the Paramount Chief and that any rights acquired by Maama within this locality during Letsie's lifetime were only tenant rights. Korokoro was, however, the name of a stream as well as of a tract of country. The expression was ambiguous and disputes arose as to the definition of its area. People living adjacent were employed as tools to foment quarrels, and eventually an acute stage was reached about new year, feelings running high between the adherents of the respective parties. At this juncture, Lerothodi complained strongly of violations by Maama of a recognised boundary in the mountains, and he begged me to send an officer with him to inspect it and verify the complaint. I did so; but a body of armed men provided by Bereng, with Lerothodi's knowledge, followed the inspecting party surreptitiously, and upon their presence at the rear of Maama becoming known to that Chief he hurriedly flew to arms and prepared for attack. Lerothodi thereupon charged Maama

(1.) With arming to resist him;
(2.) With refusing to obey summons to the Paramount Chief's court.
(3.) With violating the mountain boundary.

Meanwhile, both chiefs recruited their followings, who rallied under arms in close proximity to each other, and it was feared that at any moment a large section of the nation would have been convulsed in civil war. Cattle were captured on both sides and recriminations followed, though no blood was spilt. I had previously admonished Maama for non-obedience to the Paramount Chief's summons, and he had replied that he feared to face his brother's court while it was armed. I then offered to lead him to the court, whereupon he went and submitted himself as directed. This was the course I had worked for. Lerothodi then sent to me to say that, there being considerable forces in the field beyond control, he appealed to me to take matters over as they were "too heavy" for him. I accepted the appeal and proceeded to dismiss the people to their homes. Subsequently I summoned a Pitso of all the principal people in the nation to meet in Council.

In finally dealing with the matter after three days' exhaustive evidence, I adjudged that:—

(1.) Although Maama behaved in a contumacious and irritable manner in not responding quietly to the Paramount Chief's summons, he eventually went and the Paramount

Chief should have made allowance for contumacy characteristic of the tribe in such cases.

(2.) That the violation of the mountain boundary by Maama had been, according to the evidence before me, condoned if not sanctioned, by Lerothodi when, perhaps, under the influence of drink.

(3.) That the initial taking up of arms by Maama was conduced by Lerothodi's own action in conniving at the secret expedition by Bereng's armed contingent; and, as I regarded this appeal to arms in so serious a light and so liable to bring the whole nation into trouble and contempt, I imposed a nominal fine of twenty head of cattle upon the Paramount Chief for having led the way without authority, and a fine of fifteen cattle upon Maama as being culpable in a less degree. These fines were immediately paid.

As it may appear unusual to have subjected the Paramount Chief to such a punishment, I must observe that he had, acting upon bad advice, injudiciously placed himself in court through personal conflicts with his junior. I had supported him firmly in all lawful ways, but could not do so in doubtful action calculated to lead to civil war. It would have been easy to let him go at Maama, but it was hard to see where this would end and the remedy, without strong justification and cautious administration, might have been worse than the disease. If the warnings of Her Majesty's Government for a series of years to the nation to avoid unauthorised appeals to arms but to seek settlements in Courts had any meaning, I was bound to emphasize, in the case of the Paramount Chief, the danger of his setting a fatal example, more especially as he had sought to draw the Government covertly to his side in a course that it had perpetually condemned, which, had it succeeded, may have stultified our policy and hazarded our *bonâ fides* in sanctioning violence, as premature as unnecessary, while matters were *sub judice*. Though condemning Maama's irritating and contumacious attitude, and believing that it contributed mainly to the disturbance and may yet require summary treatment, I could not approve Lerothodi's method of action.

5. Presumably, one of the things we should lay ourselves out to do in time is to teach the chiefs in whom we repose confidence that their words should be worthy of trust, more particularly in the case of the Paramount Chief. He is in many respects a good and strong man and has much in his character to command respect, though impulsive and liable to be led by certain indiscreet councillors who have displaced Letsie's old courtiers. But since the custom of "eating up" indiscriminately has been eradicated, the Paramount Chief has felt the loss of power it gave and has depended entirely upon Government to support him in dealing with tribal cases of a troublesome nature.

Government has of late years, therefore, been concerned, in the interests of peace and national order, to treat considerably more

of tribal matters, and been compelled to assume greater responsibilities, though the rule is invariably to make every possible effort at domestic settlement before our intervention or acceptance of appeals. Domestic quarrels must, of course, be expected in every tribe and family.

6. Several tribal disputes other than those above mentioned, affecting chieftainship and land, were adjusted by Government officers during the year. Though intertribal violence was occasionally threatened, no casualty actually occurred.

7. A good deal of friction arose in Quthing District, owing principally to a section of minor chiefs cherishing an idea that the district was entirely reserved for the old loyals and original residents, and refusing to assist in finding room for the rising generation in the country to live upon, or to recognise the authority of the Chief N'Kwebe, a son of Letsie, appointed in 1884 as the responsible Native head of the district. The land question in Basutoland, as elsewhere, is absorbing. The population is growing and the land available for cultivation is incommensurate with the natural expansion. This and other matters at Quthing regarding the Government reserve were dealt with by myself and the Paramount Chief, after careful deliberation, upon bases that appeared most practicable and upon lines of continuous policy.

8. There is no questionable doubt that Basutoland of to-day is conspicuous for the absence of "smelling out," witchcraft, and similar barbarous institutions. There is a visible inclination to divorce most of the savage customs characteristic of the Kaffir, and if no material progress can be indicated in detail in any single year there are fair tokens of it in the demands for technical education and the desire to be law-abiding.

The Basuto may be credited with superior and developing intelligence, industrious habits, and eagerness to guard themselves against causes of complaint on the part of neighbouring States. Guidance and encouragement at this stage appear to me more necessary than ever, perhaps.

It may be borne in mind that the male population performs all the hard work of ploughing, weeding, and harvesting the enormous area under cultivation, that a good number are engaged in technical work in the country, several hundreds are employed on roads and other public works, in addition to which some 20,000 obtained passes to labour in foreign territories.

9. In February last, I proceeded to Cape Town, in charge of the Paramount Chief Lerothodi, upon a visit of courtesy at the invitation of his Excellency the High Commissioner. When all was arranged to start, Lerothodi informed me that he had been warned by many that it would be unsafe for him to respond to the High Commissioner's invitation, as it was contemplated to transport him to Robben Island. I overcame his doubts upon the subject after some little difficulty, and he expressed his determination to rely

rather upon the word of Government than the fears of his people. Several influential chiefs and representatives accompanied him, and the party were much impressed with the sights Sir Henry Loch had been good enough to provide for them.

Their conduct during the whole journey through the Orange Free State and Cape Colony was most exemplary. We were much indebted to those Governments for facilitating the transport of the large party.

10. I am glad to say that the liquor traffic has considerably abated. Thanks to the co-operation of neighbouring landdrosts, several gangs of smugglers and canteen keepers on the border have been suppressed, and our police, who patrolled 23,680 miles, have, under guidance of the Assistant Commissioners, succeeded in bringing many persons engaged in illicit trade to justice. We found it necessary to establish fixed camps occasionally at notorious centres. Local chiefs lent a ready hand to the police, and their missions were successful. There is a class of "poor whites" living adjacent to our border who eke out a precarious living by liquor and gun-running. They have no land and little property, and in many cases act as the mediums of stock thieving, on both sides, for which the Basuto are often blamed.

11. Trade generally has been indifferent. The closing of the big consuming markets to Basutoland cereals resulted in accumulation of heavy grain stocks, which, until they circulate, militate against mercantile exchange.

Proposals on the part of the Orange Free State to tax our grain in transit through that territory, though contrary to the provisions of the Customs Convention, caused alarm amongst the trading community.

It does not appear to be understood that the grain in Basutoland is purchased by traders who are entirely supported by leading firms of merchants resident in the Orange Free State and Cape Colony in exchange for merchandise, the manufacture of Great Britain, imported from these territories through Cape ports. Any attempt, therefore, to boycott Basutoland grain must re-act against the said merchants. The Basuto do not export grain at all nor do they hoard money, but expend the value of their grain immediately upon imported goods.

It may be further stated that Free State subjects do a thriving business, amongst other things, in riding transport from Basutoland, bartering lime, salt and other commodities, and in cattle dealing largely, all under free licences. These are reciprocal advantages, which those who would stifle our grain trade should take into account as factors in the question affecting the interests of their own countrymen.

12. The late crops promised remarkably well, but wheat alone reached an average. Mealies and kaffir corn were retarded by too continuous rains and then fell a prey to early frost. Through the enterprise of Mr. Kennan, Assistant Commissioner, Mafeteng,

and an energetic committee of traders in that district, a most successful agricultural show, the first in Basutoland, was held in May last. The list of exhibits comprised wheat and mealies of sorts, kaffir corn, forage, potatoes, pony stallions, mares, riding horses, draught oxen, cows, and wool. The show was encouraged by Government and is calculated to improve class of grain as well as quality of stock.

13. Several applications for mining concessions by speculators have again been made and refused. The Paramount Chief signified, on behalf of himself and the nation, the desire that none be granted.

14. Statistics show a decrease of crime in the country, though a slight increase of homicide cases arising from quarrels at "feasts." But such cases are immediately reported and tried in our courts.

In the suppression of crime and bringing of criminals to justice, the chiefs have continued to behave well. It is worthy of record, again, that every head of stolen stock actually traced into Basutoland has been recovered and the thieves brought to justice.

15. A substantial increase in the volume of exports and an increase in the value of imports is recorded. In addition to the 199,283 bags of grain exported, it may be noted that a large quantity is traded direct for goods at stores within the Orange Free State border. This is believed to represent considerable value and affects to some extent the volume of imports and exports, though, as it is a daily retail trade, no account is taken of it.

16. Hospital work has been well maintained under the various medical officers, whose returns show 31,115 attendances. It has been decided to impose a small charge in future as a contribution towards the heavy cost of medicines. This may decrease the attendances next year, but is calculated to promote greater efficiency.

Although the health of the country has been good, an epidemic of small-pox broke out in Leribe district. It was introduced by certain natives under treatment at an Orange Free State lazaretto who broke quarantine and propagated the disease amongst several villages in Basutoland before they were intercepted. Immediate steps were then taken to isolate the patients and enforce strict quarantine of affected areas, and certain headmen who concealed the facts for a few days were afterwards made to contribute towards cost of blankets and clothing destroyed by Government under the process of disinfection. By these measures, the disease was checked and prevented from spreading. Vaccination is being largely carried on. There is little or no prejudice against it.

The medical officers are of opinion that the ratio of syphilis to the population is steadily decreasing, and that it and kindred diseases are readily yielding to the treatment afforded in this

territory. An exhaustive report upon leprosy in Basutoland is in course of preparation, the history of each separate case being carefully recorded. This will enable us to ascertain the extent of the disease in the country and will, it is hoped, form a valuable contribution to the investigations now being carried on in South Africa, at the instance of the Cape Government, to whom a copy of the report will be furnished.

17. Extension of the telegraph system to Mafeteng gives us another link with the outer world and facilitates territorial communications.

18. Efforts made last year to limit within reasonable bounds the period of collection of Hut Tax were so far successful that within two months from beginning the bulk of the Tax was paid in.

19. The missionaries of various denominations continue to carry on with success their useful and meritorious work of education. Government encourages in all possible ways the teaching of trades and industrial work, and Basuto boys fairly proficient are to be found at work in many parts.

The French Protestant Society sustained a heavy loss in the death of the Rev. A. Mabille, who for thirty years laboured indefatigably to improve the minds and morals of the people. He introduced a printing press at Morija and educated many to manipulate in English, Dutch, and Sesuto. He was also the author of the Bible in Sesuto, together with other valuable books of an educational nature which bring the Sesuto language within comparatively easy reach.

A separate report on education will be transmitted.

20. I beg again to draw attention to the reports in detail of the Acting Government Secretary and other officers of the administration whose services continue to be effective and valuable.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. Y. LAGDEN,
Acting Resident Commissioner.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Basutoland, August 7, 1894.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the accompanying district reports on Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1894, viz.:—

Assistant Commissioner, Leribe.
Do. Berea.
Do. Maseru.
Do. Mafeteng.

Assistant Commissioner, Mohale's Hoek.
Do. Quthing.
Officer in charge, Qachas Nek.
The Principal Medical Officer.
Medical Officer, Maseru.
Do. Leribe.
Do. Mafeteng.
Do. Mohalies Hoek.

From a comparison with the statistics of the previous year, it will be seen that there has been a general advancement in the country.

During the past year, there has been a certain amount of stagnation in trade, owing to the lack of markets for the disposal of the large stocks of grain held by our traders at the close of the previous year, grain being the largest purchasing power of this country.

This territory suffers to a great extent by the prohibitive tariff levied by the South African Republic upon Colonial and Basutoland grain and produce.

From the attached return, the quantity of grain exported shows a remarkable increase over that of the previous year. The total local value of exports was 103,608*l.* for the calendar year 1893. This, however, does not represent the whole of the exports of the country, as quantities of grain and other produce are taken across the border to the various Free State towns and shops by the natives and by hawkers, mostly Free State subjects, of which it is impossible to obtain returns. This trade, I think, I should be within the mark in estimating at about 15,000*l.*

Imports for the calendar year 1893 amounted to 98,000*l.*

The last crops of wheat were fair, but those of mealies and Kaffir corn were very poor, having been to a great extent retarded in their growth by excessive rainfall, and finally destroyed by early frosts.

Efforts have of late years been made by the Government and some of the principal traders to improve the quality of the wheat produced in the country by the distribution of seed, and the efforts are already showing favourable results. With the same object in view an agricultural show was held in May at Mafeteng, towards which the Government granted a contribution. This show was sufficiently successful to encourage a repetition next season, and hopes are entertained that this step may prove an incentive to improvement amongst the native agriculturalists and stock-owners.

An Arab stallion was imported last year by Government for stud purposes; there are now two of these horses in the country.

The fears entertained last year of a locust plague were, happily, not realised.

BASUTOLAND. 1893–94.

Average local prices for Basutoland produce rule as follows:—

Mealies, per bag, 5*s.*
Wheat, per bag, 8*s.*
Kaffir corn, per bag, 13*s.*
Cattle, 4*l.*
Horses, 8*l.*
Sheep, 10*s.*
Goats, 6*s.*
Wool, 3*d.* per lb.
Mohair, 4*d.* per lb.

The general revenue of the territory shows a gratifying increase over that of 1892-93, principally under the head of Hut Tax and Ferry Tolls. This latter is nearly double the receipts of the previous year, owing to continuous floods. An effort was made to curtail the period occupied in the collection of Hut Tax, with the result that a labour that has hitherto absorbed an undue proportion of the time of the staff was, during the past year, through the energy displayed by officers and the loyal co-operation of chiefs, practically completed in two months in most districts. I regret, however, to have to report that the Berea district was again notorious by the delay and lack of energy displayed by the principal Chief, and it was not until within a few days of the close of the year that payments were completed. In the Leribe district also some unnecessary delay occurred, which was explained as due to misunderstanding. The amount of arrear tax collected amounts to 1,882*l.*, but these arrears are bound to accrue, and vary from year to year according to the number of tax-payers absent at labour when it becomes due. Tax was paid on 40,629 huts.

The tabulated return of lost stock reported at the various district offices shows that theft from neighbouring States is at a minimum. In every case in which stock has been traced into Basutoland it has been recovered and restored. The chiefs and headmen have rendered valuable assistance in this work.

The criminal return shows a marked decrease as compared with the previous year. With the exception of a slight increase in the number of cases of homicide, there is a striking absence of serious crime, and a very satisfactory decrease in the number of convictions for brandy smuggling. Most of the homicide cases arose through drunken quarrels at village beer-drinks.

You will notice from the district reports that the smuggling of brandy, to the serious increase of which attention was called in my last report, has considerably decreased of late. The hearty co-operation of the Orange Free State authorities has contributed to this happy effect, though the constant patrolling of the border by our police has proved a great check to the traffic. Many of the illicit sellers have, through the instrumentality of our police, been prosecuted in the Free State Courts and convicted. Considerable annoyance has been caused on the fenced portion of the border by the frequent cutting of the wire opposite these

canteens. One chief has during the year rendered active assistance in suppresssing smuggling.

During the past year, 52,207 persons obtained passes to leave Basutoland, of whom 20,000 were in search of labour. These labourers are a source of considerable income to Basutoland:

The strength of the Police Force is—

Officers - - - - -	11
European constables - - - -	10
Native non-commissioned officers - -	16
Native privates - - - - -	197

The men are all well mounted and their efficiency and conduct is good. From the appended return, it will be seen that the force has been engaged in 642 patrols during which the men so employed travelled a distance of 23,680 miles and made 146 arrests.

During the year, all Government-aided schools have been visited by Government officers who report satisfactory progress. There were in all 135 schools, having 6,937 scholars upon the rolls, the Government grants in aid amounting to 3,680*l*.

A considerable number of useful public works have been carried out during the past year, including many repairs and additions to public buildings. Telegraph extension from Wepener to Mafeteng New Gaol at Butha Buthe, Post office at Mafeteng, and 11 miles 5 furlongs of border fencing. There is now only a short section of the Free State border between Caledon river and Cornet Spruit unfenced. Considerable sums have also been spent on ponts and the purchase of new boats. The roads of the country have entailed a very heavy outlay owing to excessive rainfall, but they are now in good repair.

I am glad to report that the Chiefs and people are being gradually brought to see the necessity of taking active measures for the extirpation of burrweed, and considerable progress has been made in several districts towards this end. All Government road parties are ordered to destroy it along the wagon roads.

The Customs work continues to be satisfactorily carried out. The amount of revenue realised for the twelve months ending 31st March which was brought to account during the past year is considerably in excess of that for the corresponding period in the previous year.

The epidemic of small-pox now prevalent in so many parts of South Africa appeared in the Leribe district during the early part of the year, whither it was introduced by a native returned from the Transvaal. The disease was of a mild type, and, though a number of individuals were infected, only 20 deaths took place. The epidemic is now almost stamped out, owing to prompt and energetic steps taken by the medical staff and district officers to enforce and maintain a strict quarantine, and to carry out disinfection.

The possibility of a reintroduction of the disease by labourers returning from infected areas is an ever-present danger. On the whole, the public health has been excellent.

The working of the Government dispensaries has been reorganised and placed upon a more satisfactory working basis.

With a view to making these dispensaries in a measure self-supporting, and in consequence of the heavy increasing outlay on drugs, it has been decided to institute a small charge for medicines supplied to out patients. This will no doubt considerably diminish the number of attendances at first, but will, on the other hand, increase the efficiency.

Vaccination has been actively carried on by Government officers and missionaries as well as by the Medical Department.

The reports of the medical officers herewith enclosed deal fully with their work.

I attach the following returns, viz. :—

Return of Revenue.
Return of Patrols.
Return of Licences.
Return of Passes.
Return of lost and stolen stock.
Return of Exports.
Return of Civil and Criminal Cases.
Educational Return.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

His Honour the Acting Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

Return of Revenue in detail for the year ended June 30, 1894.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax - - - - - - -	21,579 0 6
Post Office - - - - - -	1,032 3 3
Licences - - - - - - -	2,695 15 4
Fees of Court or Office - - - - -	82 19 0
Miscellaneous receipts - - - - -	276 12 6
	£25,666 10 7

Return of Patrols performed by Basutoland Police during the year ended June 30, 1894.

Number of Patrols performed.	Number o f Men engaged.	Estimated Distance patrolled by collective patrols.	Number of arrests for contravention of Liquor and Pass Regulations.
642	1,746	23,631 miles	Liquor Regulations - 43 Pass do. - 58 Other Offences - 45 Total arrests - 146

Schedule of Number of Licences issued in the various districts of Basutoland during the year ended June 30, 1894.

General Traders.	Hawkers.	Free Hawkers.	Mill Dam Licences.
135	49	40	2

Return of Number of Passes issued to Natives leaving Basutoland during the year ended June 30, 1894.

Number of Natives who obtained Passes to seek work.	Number of Natives who obtained Passes for other purposes.	Total number of Natives who obtained Passes.
20,000	32,207	52,207

Schedule of Lost Stock reported at the various district offices in Basutoland during the year ended June 30, 1894.

Description.	Reported lost.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced into Basutoland.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Remarks.
Horses - -	95	19	76	19	Twelve reported as recovered in Orange Free State and Cape Colony.
Cattle - -	87	52	35	52	Eight reported as recovered in Orange Free State.
Sheep - -	369	54	315	54	

Return of Exports from Basutoland during the year ended 31st December 1893.

Description.	Grain.		Meal.		Wool and Mohair.		Live Stock.				Other Exports.	Totals.
							Cattle.		Horses.			
	No. of Bags (200 lb.)	Value.	No. of Bags.	Value.	Weight.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	Value.	
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wheat	128,740	63,416 11 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	63,416 11 0
Mealies	65,779	17,452 9 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17,452 9 0
Kaffir Corn	4,764	1,942 19 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,942 19 2
Meal	—	—	2,843	2,038 2 6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,038 2 6
Wool	—	—	—	—	972,505	14,355 11 0	—	—	—	—	—	14,355 11 0
Mohair	—	—	—	—	30,460	792 8 6	—	—	—	—	—	792 8 6
Cattle	—	—	—	—	—	—	715	2,061 11 0	—	—	—	2,061 11 0
Horses	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	220	972 10 0	—	972 10 0
Other Exports	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	575 18 4	575 18 4
Totals	199,283	82,811 19 2	2,843	2,038 2 6	1,002,965	15,147 19 6	715	2,061 11 0	220	972 10 0	575 18 4	103,608 0 6

Return of Civil and Criminal Cases heard in the various Assistant Commissioners' Courts in Basutoland during the year ended June 30, 1894.

Civil actions - - - -	26
Arson - - - -	2
Assault - - - -	14
Customs regulations, Breach of -	9
Contempt of Court - - -	4
Embezzlement - - - -	1
Fraud - - - -	1
Firearm regulations, Breach of -	10
House and shop breaking -	2
Homicide - - -	12
Liquor regulations, Breach of -	53
Lord's Day Ordinance do. -	2
Pass regulations, Breach of -	59
Prison discipline, Breach of / Gaol breaking -	2
Perjury - - - -	1
Resisting police - - -	10
Rape - - - -	1
Theft - - - -	53
Trading regulations, Breach of -	6
Undefined - - - -	17
Total - - - -	259

Educational Return for the year ended June 30, 1894.

Total number of schools - - -	137
Total number of scholars on Rolls -	6,937
Mean average attendance - - -	4,403
Total grants in aid - - -	£3,680

LERIBE.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1894.

The past year has not been marked by any events of exceptional political importance within this district.

The disputes between the Paramount Chief and the younger sons of Letsie, headed by Maama, have naturally been closely watched by the chiefs and people in Leribe, and, so far as it has been possible to discover the tendency of opinion, Jonathan and his following may be said to be in support of Lerotholi, while Joel appears to sympathise with Maama.

There are several matters in dispute between the chiefs within the district but none of these disagreements have assumed an acute form during the past year. It would be well if there were a clearly defined line between the grounds of the Chief Jonathan and Peeta Ramanella in the neighbourhood of Dipetung. The reported intention of Peeta to place his son Mitchell at Ramanella's old village at Kueneng and to plough the pasture lands on Kueneng mountain has also occasioned some uneasiness and may be opposed by Seshope Ramanella, who would probably be supported by Jonathan.

The position of affairs between Jonathan and Joel, though it has lately improved, cannot be called satisfactory. These chiefs appear to mutually disregard and distrust the decisions of each other, and it has, therefore, been necessary for me to intervene in several purely native cases affecting them, which otherwise would not have come into my court.

The presence in the district of Motsuene Joseph Molapo, his character, and his claims to chieftainship, based upon his being the child of Motapo's eldest son and Litsie's eldest daughter, are factors that have to be reckoned with in forming a forecast as to the future course of events. He has at present several minor complaints as to his treatment by Jonathan, under cover of which he appears to intend to advance his claim to larger chieftainship, for which he is utterly unfitted.

The death of the Chief Matela in February, which is alluded to in Mr. Boxwell's report, has been followed by a more direct supervision of affairs in that portion of the district by Jonathan, which so far has had the effect of increasing the amount of hut-tax paid by Matela's people. Matela had for some time past been in a somewhat feeble condition.

The Chief Jonathan accompanied the Paramount Chief on a visit paid to His Excellency the High Commissioner in March.

The Revenue for the past year is as follows :—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax	5,059	10	0
Licences	335	0	3
Fines	133	11	6
Ferry tolls	23	14	6
Fees	5	12	0
Miscellaneous	19	19	0
	£5,577	7	3

The number of huts on which hut tax has been paid is 9,170.
The amount of arrear hut tax collected is 624*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.*

With reference to above return, the increase in hut tax is principally at Matela's, where probably the largest proportion of arrears has also been paid.

The licences issued during the year are :—

General traders - - - -	32
Hawkers (paid) - - - -	14
Hawkers (free) - - - -	2
Grain passes - - - - -	9

There is a slight falling off in the number of traders' licences. I have declined to recommend several applications for new licences, as there does not appear at present to exist any public need for more shops. Owing to late and continuous rains and early frosts, the crops of mealies and Kaffir corn, which had promised well, did not, probably, give an average yield.

The current prices for produce are :—

Wheat, 12*s.* 6*d.* per muid.
Mealies, 6*s.* per muid.
Kaffir corn, 10*s.* per muid.
Forage, 15*s.* per 100 bundles.
Cattle, 2*l.* to 6*l.* each.
Sheep, 10*s.* to 15*s.* each.

The police in the district consist of two sub-inspectors, two European constables, two native officers and 52 native police. They are constantly occupied in patrolling the border and in other duties.

The following is a return of patrols performed :—

Number of patrols, 201.
Number of men engaged, 472.
Estimated distance travelled by collective patrols, 5,874 miles.

Number of arrests for :—

(*a.*) Contravening Liquor Laws - -	10
(*b.*) Contravening Pass Laws - -	46
(*c.*) Other offences - - -	3

Two horses and two oxen were brought in by patrols.

The Free State authorities and police co-operate in suppression of illicit liquor traffic and other border irregularities. A certain amount of brandy smuggling undoubtedly takes place from time to time, but, owing to the enforcement of the excellent Free State liquor law by the local authorities, this evil does not exist to any serious extent.

I have found, as a rule, little difficulty in the administration of justice in such civil and criminal cases as have come before my court.

The cases adjudicated upon at Ihlotsi Heights during the past twelve months are :—

Civil cases	13
Theft	14
Assault	7
Contravention of Liquor Law	10
Contravention of Pass Law	45
Resisting police	2
Breach of trading regulations	1
Breach of Customs regulations	3
Culpable homicide	1
Arson	1
Perjury	1
Miscellaneous	7

Theft of stock from the Orange Free State is not of common occurrence. The chiefs possess almost complete control of the people and have means of acquiring a perfect knowledge of their movements with their stock.

This tribal organization affords facilities for tracing and recovering stolen stock and detection of theft, and I have experienced little difficulty in this when any lost stock has been traced into the district.

The following is a summary of reports made to me with results :—

Description.	Reported lost or stolen.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced into Basutoland.	Recoverd in Basutoland.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses	21	2	19	2	19	One horse in pound supposed to have been stolen.
Cattle	14	2	12	2	12	Seven cattle of this number, I have ascertained, were subsequently found in the Orange Free State.

The following passes have been issued to natives leaving the district :—

Number of passes	6,892
Seeking work	3,855 individuals.
Other purposes	7,546 individuals.
Total	11,401

This return is exclusive of Butha Buthe passes.

In consequence of the presence of some cases of small-pox in the district, it has been recently advisable to provide natives leaving the country with certificates of vaccination in addition to

their passes. The Medical Officer has alluded to the outbreak of small-pox in his report. It has, so far, been successfully localised and confined to a few villages in the district, but the constant arrival of natives from Johannesburg is an ever-present source of danger.

I enclose a report on the schools in the district which have been inspected. There appears to be a great want of certificated native teachers of good character.

A report on roads has recently been submitted. The roads in the district are at present in passable order, but, as usual, were very much cut up during the wet season, necessitating considerable expenditure on road parties. Labourers for this purpose are procured without difficulty at 1*s.* per diem without food.

I enclose a nominal list* of traders in the district, and my report on the inspection of schools, together with Mr. Boxwell's report on the sub-district of Butha Buthe, under his immediate charge, and the report † of the Medical Officer in the district.

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

BUTHA BUTHE.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1894.

General.

During the past year, the general state of the ward has been peaceful. There has been no fighting and no serious crime. One case of suicide was reported.

On the 16th August, the reeds at Butha Buthe were cut to the satisfaction of both sides.

During the same month, three men who had illegally arrested a man in the Free State were tried and punished.

In February 1894 Matela died, and his eldest son Letsika succeeded him in the chieftainship of that ward.

On the 17th February, I left Butha Buthe in order to take over the duties of the Assistant Commissioner, Leribe, during his absence on leave, and returned on the 14th June. During the time, nothing of importance took place in this ward.

I am happy to say that, so far, small-pox has not shown itself. Numbers of the people have been vaccinated and this work is still going on.

I am glad to be able to report that both the total revenue of the ward and the amount of hut tax collected are considerably in excess of any former year. The total revenue shows an increase of 282*l.* 7*s.* 0*d.* and the hut tax 266*l.* In the hut tax, the greater part of the increase has been in Matela's Ward. The amount

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* Not printed.

† See page 49.

received for licences has again fallen off, owing to the very few hawkers' licences taken out during the year.

I subjoin a return of Revenue from 1st July 1893 to 30th June 1894:—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut Tax - - - - - - -	1,485 0 0
Licences - - - - - - -	112 0 0
Fines - - - - - - -	24 15 0
Fees - - - - - - -	0 13 6
Miscellaneous - - - - - -	3 0 0
Total - - - - - - -	£1,625 8 6

The number of huts on which hut tax has been paid is 2,563. Amount of arrear hut tax collected is 353*l.* 10*s.*

Licences.

I subjoin a return of the number of licences issued during the year:—

General traders - - - - - -	11
Hawkers' (paid) - - - - - -	2
Hawkers' (free) - - - - - -	2
Mill dam licences - - - - - -	Nil

Lost Stock.

Very few horses or cattle were traced into this ward during the year, and I am glad to be able to report that the few so traced were recovered. I subjoin return:—

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced into Basutoland.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Not Recovered.	Remarks.
Horses - -	17.	3	14	3	14	—
Cattle - -	1	1	—	1	—	—

Crops, &c.

Owing to the very heavy rains, which to a great extent hindered the people from cleaning their lands properly, and the early frost, the crops, with the exception of wheat, have not been

good. The local prices are about as follows, but will probably rise:—

Wheat, 15*s.* per muid.
Mealies, 7*s.* per muid.
Kaffir corn, 10*s.* per muid.
Forage, 12*s.* per 100 bundles.
Cattle, 50*s.* to 80*s.* each.
Sheep, 10*s.* to 15*s.* each

Schedule of civil and criminal cases tried at Butha Buthe during the year:—

Civil cases	2
Illegally seizing a man in Orange Free State	1
Theft	2
Contravening Liquor Regulations	1
„ Pass „	6
„ Customs „	1
Found in village by night with intent to commit a felony	1

Patrols.

Schedule of Patrols sent out from Butha Buthe during the year:—

Number of patrols, 40.
Number of men engaged, 75.
Estimated distance travelled by collective patrols, 2,255 miles.

Number of arrests for—

(*a.*) Contravention Liquor Regulations	1
(*b.*) „ Pass „	6
(*c.*) Other Offences	1

Passes.

Schedule of Passes issued at Butha Buthe during the year:—

Seeking employment	2,095
Other purposes	5,130
Total	7,225

Schools.

There are three schools in the ward drawing grants from Government, one under the English Church and two under the French Protestant. The English Church School at Secubu is making good progress.

Relations with Bordering States.

My relations with the Free State Officials continue friendly and they give any help I require.

(Signed) W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

BEREA.

Assistant Commissioner's Office, Berea,
June 30, 1894.

Annual Report, 1893-1894.

The state of the district has, generally speaking, been quiet during the year past.

In September 1893, a quarrel arose between Chiefs Masupha and Theko Letsie, regarding the ownership of a small reed bed near Thaba Bosigo.

The cause of the quarrel was insignificant in itself but it involved a matter of precedent which raised it into a matter of importance to all concerned.

Theko claimed these reeds on the grounds that he was duly appointed caretaker of them, and held that Masupha had succeeded irregularly to the charge of them.

On Theko attempting to assert his rights, Masupha cut the reeds and carried them to Thaba Bosigo and called out a large armed force, which he posted at Thaba Bosigo and in the Thupa Kobo Valley to protect them.

The settlement of the case was referred to the Resident Commissioner, who called a Pitso, which sat at a point near the disputed ground.

Nearly every chief of importance was present, and it was unanimously decided that Theko's contention was more or less correct, but that, as Masupha had held possession of the reed bed for many years, he should be allowed to retain it during his lifetime, and on his decease it should revert to Theko or his representative.

Later on in the year, slight friction arose between Leshuburu Majara and Tumo Masupha, and Leshuburu and a headman named Maqalika. These were, however, matters of only local and temporary importance.

The quarrels of Chiefs Lerothodi and Maama in December 1893 over the boundary line near Koro Koro, though not directly affecting this district, yet caused a good deal of excitement, which was only quieted by a judgment delivered by the Resident Commissioner at a Pitso called by him to assemble at Motsikis Village, near the Phutiatsana.

A few weeks ago, a complaint was made by the Chief Peite Lesaoana to the effect that Lebese Masupha had broken the boundary line between Masupha and Peete, when ploughing.

I requested Mamathe Lepogo to co-operate with Peete in settling the affair. They have, however, been unable to do so, and it has been agreed that I shall shortly point out to their joint representatives once more the line laid down by my predecessor and confirmed by the Resident Commissioner.

I regret to have to report that Moekitse Masupha, one of the younger sons of Masupha, having for some time past made himself notorious by his impatience of control and by his general bad behaviour, at length compromised himself to such an extent in a criminal case heard before a combined court at Maseru, that the Resident Commissioner has been compelled to decline to recognise him in any way as a headman.

In my report last year, I was obliged to draw attention to the increased brandy smuggling across the Caledon River, presumably from Lady Brand, Orange Free State.

To meet this district a temporary camp was placed near Mokhetcaning in this district, opposite to Lady Brand, consisting of ten non-commissioned officers and men (of whom half were contributed by the Assistant Commissioner, Maseru).

This detachment, during the period it was stationed there, though not actually making many arrests, still did good service, the people mostly being unwilling to attempt to smuggle brandy while running such a very apparent risk of capture.

I am glad to say that, though it undoubtedly exists still, the smuggling referred to has now greatly diminished.

The police force at my disposal consists of:—

1 European sub-inspector.
1 European constable.
3 Native non-commissioned officers
23 Native privates.

These are all mounted, equipped and efficient.

During the past year, the patrols performed by this detachment are as under:—

Number of patrols - - - -	169
Number of men engaged - - -	461
Number of miles patrolled - - -	3,087

Arrests.

For contravention of liquor regulations - -	12
For contravention of pass regulation - -	2
For other offences - - - -	2

BASUTOLAND. 1893–94.

The following cases have been heard in the Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Civil cases - - - - -	2
Criminal cases :—	
Resisting police - - - -	1
Contravening trading regulations -	3
Contravening customs regulations -	3
Contravening liquor regulations -	6
Contravening Lord's Day Observance Act	2
Theft - - - - -	6
Assault - - - - -	2
	23

During the year there has been a good deal of anxiety owing to occasional outbreaks of small-pox in the district. Of these there were three in all.

The natives themselves, however, quarantined all cases so quickly and thoroughly that beyond the first cases there were no more, and only one death occurred.

There being no medical officer in the district, the vaccination was carried on as far as possible by political officers, and 368 persons have thus been vaccinated at this station.

There has been very little stock reported lost from the Orange Free State during the year. Below is shown the results of such reports :—

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Cattle - -	15	5	10	5	10	
Horses - -	5	2	3	2	3	
Saddle - -	1	1	—	—	1	

The matter of the saddle not recovered is still under investigation.

I have received every assistance from the Chiefs whenever I have required it in these cases.

Passes as under were issued at this office to natives leaving the territory.

For labour purposes - -	2,686	7,156 in all.
For other purposes - -	4,470	

There has been a strong demand lately for vaccination certificates, which appear to be needed by natives when travelling in the Orange Free State.

The number of general trading stations in the district is 25.

Paid hawkers' licences have been issued during the year to ten persons. Free hawkers' licences for same period were issued to five persons.

The hut tax of the district has been rather disappointing. While, I believe, the tax on being called for has been promptly paid everywhere else in the country, it has in this district been paid only by driblets, and it has, indeed, only been completed within the last few days.

The tax shows no signs of again reaching the level of three years ago, but I am informed on all sides that many families are leaving Masupha and Leshuburu and are settling under other Chiefs in Basutoland or emigrating to the Orange Free State, and this may to a great extent account for the apparent decrease.

Hut Tax was paid during year past on 5,256 huts.

Below is given a table showing details of Revenue in the District for year ending 30th June 1894:—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut Tax - - - - - - -	2,748 16 0
Licences - - - - - - -	296 9 0
Fees of Court or Office - - - - -	2 2 6
Miscellaneous - - - - - -	3 16 0
	£3,051 3 6

Of the above Hut Tax, 273*l.* 10*s.* is Arrear Tax.

The standard crops viz.:—Wheat, mealies, and Kafir corn promised well in the early summer, and the wheat fulfilled its promise, but mealies and Kafir corn have been greatly damaged by the heavy rains which we experienced in January and February last. The current values ruling at present are:—

Wheat 8*s.* to 10*s.* per muid.
Mealies 6*s.* to 8*s.* per sewn bag.
Kafir corn 10*s.* per sewn bag.

Stock of all kinds is offered for sale at average prices.

It is expected that the price of, mealies and Kafir corn will rise, owing to the comparative failure of the crop.

The roads of the district, owing to the heavy autumn rains referred to above, were very much damaged and an extra grant was made by the Resident Commissioner to repair them and thus to facilitate the removal of grain by the traders. The main road is now in good order and the bye-roads are in a fit state to carry the traffic passing over them.

The Government offices, referred to in my report of last year, have been completed and have proved a great boon.

The Government buildings are in a good state of repair, and I do not apprehend need of much expenditure on them during the coming year.

In conclusion, I would beg to state that during the past year I have received every assistance from the Orange Free State officials with whom I have come in contact.

(Signed) L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner, Berea.

MASERU.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1894.

General.

This year has not passed without disturbance, although, fortunately, no blood has been spilled.

In September last a dispute arose between the Chiefs Theko and Masupha regarding chieftainship over an exceedingly small reed bed in the Phutiatsana River. What made the case more than usually difficult was, each of the disputants had a fair show of right on his side. Masupha made out a fair case, inasmuch as he could adduce evidence to show that he had received the reed bed from Moshesh; while Theko produced equally weighty evidence to show that he had been constituted its custodian by the late Paramount Chief Letse. Both claims were good in their way and the dispute may be attributed to the vacillating and procrastinating manner in which the Chief Letsie mismanaged public affairs.

Bloodshed was averted by the loyal respect for the law shown by Chief Theko, who, although he was aware that his neighbour Masupha was under arms, and ready and threatening to attack him, refused to call a man of his own very large following to arms, preferring, as he told me, to place his claim unreservedly in the hands of the Court.

The dispute was afterwards compromised by the Chief Theko agreeing to leave Masupha in undisturbed possession of the reed bed during his lifetime on the understanding that at his death it shall revert to Theko.

Last year I had to report trouble between the Paramount Chief and his younger brother Maama, and I regret to say that this year bad blood exists between them. No sooner is one dispute settled than another crops up, and certain restless spirits who live at Korokoro, where the two wards join, and where the boundary is imperfectly defined, appear to take pleasure in trespassing and annoying their neighbours, thinking, no doubt, thereby to gain favour with their respective chiefs.

These little annoyances are a fertile source of trouble, and last December the whole country was nearly plunged into civil war by one of them.

On this occasion, the Paramount Chief was so enraged at what he, with good reason, considered the gross disrespect and contempt

of his authority by his younger brother, that he called up the people with arms to punish him.

Disaster was, however, averted by the timely intervention of the authorities. A Pitso was held and the Paramount Chief was censured and fined by the Resident Commissioner for taking up arms without authority.

Liquor smuggling still continues, though I think it has decreased of late. The Chief Bereng has rendered valuable assistance in checking it.

The mealie and Kaffir corn crops have failed this year, but there was a fair yield of wheat.

Population

This has gone on increasing since the census; it was then 45,402 souls.

Commercial.

Last year, trade was bad and this year it is no better. When the crops fail, the natives have very little to buy goods with.

The purchasing power of grain here is materially affected by the prohibitive duties placed upon it by the Transvaal Government. Probably no county suffers more from this obstruction to trade than Basutoland.

The following are the average prices paid for produce :—

Mealies, 5*s.* per muid.
Kaffir corn, 12*s.* per muid.
Wheat, 10*s.* per muid.
Wool, 2*d.* to 4*d.* per lb.
Cattle, 3*l.* to 5*l.* per head.
Ponies, 2*l.* to 10*l.* each.

Public Works.

The roads in the district are not in such excellent repair as they were this time last year. The constant downpour of rain we had through last summer played great havoc, and except for the exertions of the road parties there would have been no roads at all by now.

Police.

The force attached to my office consists nominally of:—

2 sub-inspectors.
2 European constables.
1 native sergeant.
3 native corporals.
46 native privates.

During the year, 1,495 miles were patrolled.

The number of stock reported lost or stolen from the Orange Free State is very small. In every case where stock has been traced to Basutoland it has been recovered.

The following table shows results of action taken in this matter :—

Description.	Reported.	Traced to Basutoland.	Not Traced to Basutoland.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Not Recovered.	Remarks.
Horses - -	18	2	16	2	16	Seven horses have been reported by Orange Free State officials as having been recovered in the Free State. I have not been able to get reports regarding the remaining nine.
Cattle - -	12	—	12	12		

Serious crime continues to be rare. I append a return of cases tried in my court :—

Theft - - - - -	15
Contravening liquor regulations - -	17
Contravening pass regulations - -	2
Fraud - - - - -	1
Arson - - - - -	1
Assault - - - - -	4
Shopbreaking - - - -	2
Housebreaking - - - -	2
Resisting police - - - -	2
Homicide - - - -	3
Civil actions - - -	2 (Divorce.)

Revenue.

There is a decrease of 381*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.* in the Revenue as against last year. The short-fall is mostly in hut tax, and is occasioned by a piece of country which used to belong to this district being now administered from Qacha's Nek.

The following is a return of Revenue in detail :—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ *s.* *d.*
Hut tax - - - - - - - -	3,676 0 0
Licences - - - - - - -	266 0 0
Fines - - - - - - -	63 7 0
Ferry tolls - - - - - - -	427 6 0
Fees of Court - - - - - -	36 4 6
Miscellaneous - - - - - -	138 16 5
Post Office - - - - - - -	1,032 3 3
	£5,639 17 2

Tax was paid on 7,072 huts, and arrear hut tax amounting to 316*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.* was collected.

There are twenty-five general traders' licences now in force. Eleven paid, and three free, hawkers' licences were issued.

Passes.

Six thousand three hundred and seventy-three persons took passes during the year. Of these, three thousand four hundred and twelve were going in search of employment.

Relations with Bordering States.

Intercourse with the Orange Free State officials continues to be of a friendly nature, and I have pleasure in testifying to the cordial co-operation afforded by the Landdrost of Lady Brand.

I attach the Medical Officer's reports.*

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

MAFETENG.

Annual Report for Year ended 30th June, 1894.

The antagonistic attitude of Chief Maama Letsie towards his elder brother, the Paramount Chief, disturbed the people on two or three occasions and caused considerable unrest, as chiefs sympathising with the object of both factions are numerous in Mafeteng district. On such occasions collision was averted by the firm policy of Government, and since Maama's last attempt to defy the Paramount Chief the people have settled down with a greater feeling of security, expressing a hope that they will not again be disturbed in their peaceful occupations through the political intrigues of their Chiefs.

Chiefs Seiso, Mogela, and two Councillors were included in the party which accompanied Chief Lerothodi to Cape Town last March, for the purpose of paying a visit of courtesy to His Excellency the High Commissioner. These Chiefs were very favourably impressed by all they saw, and they retain many pleasing reminiscences of their visit.

A few land disputes have occurred during the past year and all have been satisfactorily adjusted, with the exception of an old dispute between Chiefs Moyela and Azarule, concerning a strip of ground now occupied by one Mokone.

There has been a marked decrease in brandy smuggling from the Orange Free State, and this improvement is mainly due to the

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* See page 48.

energy of Orange Free State officials, and the vigilant patrolling of Basutoland police.

Canteens which existed twelve months ago on the Wepener Border are now closed; others are still open, but the illicit sellers have been so frequently convicted for supplying large quantities of brandy to natives that they have become very cautious and will not run the risk unless they are acquainted with the purchaser, and their principal business is now done by selling "tots," which are consumed on the premises.

Many instances have come to my notice of gaps having been cut through the border fence opposite Free State canteens, and it is evident these openings are left by the proprietors for the convenience of their customers, and thus the Basutoland Government has hitherto borne the cost of maintaining the fence.

I append a return of patrols performed by the Mafeteng detachment of Basutoland Mounted Police during the past year.

Number of Patrols.	Number of Men engaged.	Estimated distance travelled by collective patrols.	Arrests. *A.* Contravening Regulations. *B.* Contravening Regulations. *C.* Other offences.	Liquor Pass
87	439	5,214 miles	*A.* 17 *B.* 4 *C.* 22	

Whenever necessary, the Chiefs have assisted the police to trace stolen property and to arrest accused persons.

During the past year, no stock thefts from the Orange Free State nor Cape Colony were traced to Basuto residing in this district, but stolen stock was brought in by foreigners, who were arrested and in due course surrendered to their respective Governments. In each instance, the stolen property was recovered.

I attach a return of lost and stolen stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses - -	13	5	8	*9	4	* Of this number four have been reported by their owners as recovered in Orange Free State.
Cattle - -	1	—	1	—	1	
Sheep - -	—	—	—	—	—	

The Civil and Criminal Cases were tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court. The homicide cases (tried by combined

courts) were all the result of quarrels at beer drinks, when most of the persons concerned were intoxicated:—

Culpable homicide	4
Civil cases	6
Committing a breach of public order	1
Contravening section 7 Trading Regulations	17
Contravening section 1 Trading Regulations	1
Contravening section 19 Trading Regulations	5
Contravening Pass Regulations	4
Theft by means of embezzlement	1
Intimidating witnesses	2
Escape from lawful custody	3
Resisting and assaulting police	5
Common assault	2
Contempt of court	3
Loitering on enclosed premises	1
Assault with intent	1
Destroying public works	1
Cases dismissed	4

The Basutoland Mounted Police stationed in this district discharge their duties in a satisfactory manner, the detachment is well mounted and equipped, and the men are amenable to discipline.

The following is a Return of the strength of the Police Detachment under my command:—

1 Sub-inspector.
2 European constables.
1 Native officer.
1 „ sergeant.
1 „ corporal.
31 „ privates.

Agricultural development has been stimulated during the last year by an agricultural show, the first of the kind held in Mafeteng. The show was sufficiently successful to encourage the promoters to make it an annual event, in order to furnish native stock breeders and produce growers with incitement to a wholesome emulation.

There was a copious downpour of rain during the summer months, but still the harvest was far from satisfactory. Wheat was plentiful but of poor quality, and only a second, and in some instances, a third rate harvest of mealies and Kafir corn was obtained. It was not a prosperous year for traders.

I attach a return of the number of licences granted:—

General traders	20
Hawkers' Licences (paid)	3
„ „ (free)	27

BASUTOLAND. 1893–94.

The rainfall for the twelve months ended 30th June, 1894, according to the rain gauge kept at Mafeteng, was 39·79 inches.

The following is a list of prices that ruled for stock and grain, &c. :—

Horned cattle, 40*s.* to 80*s.*
Goats, 5*s.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*
Sheep, 5*s.* to 12*s.*
Pigs, 10*s.* to 20*s.*
Basuto ponies, 60*s.* to 120*s.*
Hides, 2½*d.* per lb.
Sheepskins, 3*d.* per lb.
Basuto tobacco, 6*d.* per lb.
Wheat, 7*s.* 6*d.* per bag of 200 lbs.
Mealies, 4*s.* 6*d.* per bag of 200 lbs.
Oats, 6*s.* per bag of 150 lbs.
Barley, 5*s.* per bag of 150 lbs.
Kaffir corn, 10*s.* per bag of 200 lbs.
Oat hay, 25*s.* per 100 bundles.
Wool, 3½*d.* per lb.
Mohair, 6*d.* per lb.

Continuous rain in the summer destroyed the roads, and it was only at considerable labour and expense that the principal routes were kept open for traffic. The district roads are now in fair repair.

Government buildings were repaired and improved, and a new post and telegraph office built, and the extension of the telegraph line from Wepener to Mafeteng is a great boon to the district.

The number of passes issued in Mafeteng district to natives wishing to proceed beyond the borders of Basutoland were, viz. :—

Passes issued to persons seeking employment -	3,637
Passes issued to persons for other purposes -	5,372
Total - - - - -	9,009

I attach the Medical Officer's Report,* showing that the Government Dispensary was well attended during the past year, that a return of lepers has been framed, and that the work of vaccination is proceeding satisfactorily in the district.

I have furnished a separate Report on (27) twenty-seven Government-aided schools inspected during the last half-year.

With two exceptions, these schools are under the supervision of missionaries belonging to the various religious denominations established in this territory, and the scholars are gaining knowledge. The two other schools are undenominational, and are doing good work

* See page 50.

Hut tax was well paid in cash, and the collection was practically finished early in the year. The following return shows a slight decrease in the total Revenue as compared with the amount collected the previous year, and this is due to a falling off in fines, but there was a great improvement in the amount of hut tax paid.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut Tax - - - - - - -	3,596 10 0
Licences - - - - - - -	203 0 0
Fines - - - - - - -	78 15 0
Fees for Registering Marriages - - - -	7 5 0
Fees of Court - - - - - -	1 4 6
Miscellaneous - - - - - -	13 7 8
	£3,900 2 2

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 6,818. Arrear hut tax collected, 187*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.*

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

CORNET SPRUIT.

Annual Report for the year ending 30th June 1894

General.

During the past year the district has been, as a rule, orderly.

Unfortunately, the mealie and Kafir corn crops have been almost an entire failure. This is owing to these crops being unusually late, and the frosts unusually early.

Fortunately the local traders, and a considerable number of natives, especially those in the mountainous portion of the district, hold a good supply of the above cereals from last year, so that I do not anticipate any necessity for importing.

No important disturbances have occurred during the past year.

In August 1893, a dispute arose between Malebanye and Lebona, in which the former Chief took up arms, but was promptly stopped from doing any mischief, and was subsequently brought to trial and severely punished by fine, and suspension from all Government duty during the pleasure of the Resident Commissioner. The fine was paid, and Malebanye showed great penitence. He

was reinstated in the following January, and has since behaved very satisfactorily.

In the same month (August 1893) a beer disturbance took place between Makoroane and Qhase, in which several men were wounded with sticks. They were attended by a medical officer, and all recovered. The matter was investigated and Qhase fined.

In September, Mako Seake reported that Letsie was cutting reeds in Sekaki's ward. This matter was amicably settled.

Patrols were sent during the month of September to impress upon the natives the importance of vaccination.

On the 23rd October, Raboroko was fined five head of cattle by Letsie for attempting to cause mischief between himself and Mokhele. I was present at the Pitso and approved of the sentence.

In December, Malebanye reported that he was sent for by the Paramount Chief to take part in a warlike demonstration against Maama Letsie.

I advised Malebanya to inform the Paramount Chief that I, on behalf of Government, did not desire him to go up, and further advised him to keep quiet, which he did.

In March last a petty Chief, Alfred Moletsane, closed the shop at Tsolane. I sent for him and informed him that the shop was licensed by Government at the request of the Bataung Chiefs, and that he must not interfere with the business. This order was complied with.

On the 30th April the Baphuti Chief, Klwelenye, died. His successor is his eldest son, Tsetla.

During that month all Chiefs were warned to send in their lepers for medical examination.

Relations with Bordering States.

Friendly relations continue between this territory and the neighbouring State. The greater portion of the border line between this district and the Free State has been substantially fenced with wire supported by stone pillars and wooden posts. This fence is proving beneficial to both sides.

Very few cases of illicit liquor traffic have occurred during the past year. *Vide* Criminal Records,

Population.

The population is steadily increasing, especially in the Maluti.

Education.

Schools are progressing fairly well.

Trade.

Trade in this district is slack, owing to the large stocks of grain still held by traders, which was purchased at high rates,

and for which there has not been sufficient demand at profitable rates. Ordinary business is in an average condition.

In addition to the great quantity of grain in the country, large quantities have been exported,

The licences issued are as follows:—

General traders	13
Hawkers' licences (paid)	1
Hawkers' licences (free)	2
Mill dam licences	2

Medical.

A considerable amount of work has been done in the Government Hospital, and large numbers of persons have been vaccinated, also a good many vaccination certificates have been issued.

Criminal.

The chiefs continue loyal, and assist in the suppression of crime. The following is an extract from the criminal record:—

Culpable homicide	2
Theft	5
Contravening Section 18 Regulations	5
Contravening Section 7 Regulations	1

Labour.

Labour is plentiful, and wages reasonable.

Passes issued during the year:—

For seeking employment	2,600
For other purposes	2,145
	4,745

Number of huts on which tax has been paid, 6,214.
Arrear Hut Tax, 181*l.*

Police.

The police at this station are an efficient body of men, and are well mounted.

Patrol reports show as follows:—

Number of Patrols.	Total Number of Men engaged.	Estimated distance travelled
81	146	3,440 miles

Arrests.

Contravening Liquor Regulations - - - -	1
Contravening Pass Regulation - - - - -	1
Other Offences - - - - - - -	3

Return of Lost and Stolen Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses - -	14	3	11	3	11	One horse was recovered in the Free State.
Cattle - -	11	—	11	—	11	

Revenue.

Collections during the year are as follows:—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax - - - - - -	3,256 0 0
Licences - - - - - -	134 0 0
Fines - - - - - -	69 16 10
Ferry Tolls - - - - - -	116 5 3
Fees of Court - - - - - -	6 5 6
Miscellaneous - - - - - -	14 9 6
	£3,596 17 1

Roads.

The roads in this district are in good order.

(Signed) J. W. BOWKER,
Assistant Commissioner.

QUTHING.

Annual Report for the Year ending 30th June, 1894.

General.

I. Although no actual disturbance of the peace has occurred in this district during the past year, considerable friction has been

caused by the action of the principal Chief of the district, Ukwebe Letsie, in persistently ignoring the rights of a number of sub-chiefs and headmen who were located in Quthing by the Cape Government in 1882–3. The intention of Ukwebe appears to have been to supplant these headmen and to instal creatures of his own, among them some of the younger sons of Letsie, in their places.

The numerous complaints caused by these proceedings, which have been going on for several years, led to a Pitso being held at Moyeni in the early part of this month, in order that the Acting Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief might inquire into these grievances. This inquiry, which lasted several days, ended in the rights of the original headmen being confirmed, and in Ukwebe's attempts to dispossess them being exposed and condemned as opposed to tribal custom.

In view, however, of the growth of population in Basutoland generally, it was considered inexpedient to remove the trespassers, and the local headmen were requested to provide them with land for cultivation, on the understanding that the newcomers were to assume no authority as chiefs, but were to be regarded as subordinate to the headmen with whom they were located. These matters having been settled and the settlements duly recorded, there appears to be no necessity for dealing with them seriatim in this Report.

II. The question of the succession to the chieftainship of the Ama Vunahle Clan of the Ba Tembu tribe in Quthing was decided by the Acting Resident Commissioner, at the above-mentioned meeting, in favour of Stock, the eldest son of the old Chief Tyali. The latter is still living, but is very infirm, and he was desirous that the succession might be settled during his lifetime in favour of Stock, in order to avoid disputes.

III. In October 1893, it was decided to form a new district on the Upper Orange River, and the outstation of Qacha's Nek was cut off from Quthing, together with the wards of the Chiefs Mpiti and Sekake Makuai.

Agricultural.

The crops of maize and Kaffir corn have been seriously affected be early frosts, and the yield will be scanty. It is not anticipated that any actual famine will ensue this season, as large stocks of grain are held by traders in Central Basutoland.

A good deal has been done during the past year towards the eradication of burrweed, the natives themselves having in many cases attended to the representations of Government and taken the matter up. Owing to the great vitality of the seed, these efforts will have to be renewed for several successive seasons if they are to be finally effectual.

Locusts have not come into the district in large swarms, but enough exist to cause trouble should they breed here.

BASUTOLAND. 1893–94.

Foot-and-mouth disease has not shown itself among the stock this season, but cattle have been dying in this neighbourhood from redwater, brought in by transport oxen from the Cape Colony.

Current prices of produce and live stock are as follows:—

Wheat, 10*s.* per muid of 200 lbs.
Kaffir corn 12*s.* per muid of 200 lbs.
Mealies, 6*s.* per muid of 200 lbs.
Oat hay, 15*s.* to 25*s.* per 100 bundles.
Potatoes, 6*s.* per sack.
Hides, wet, 2½*d.* per lb.
Hides, dry, about 12*s.* each.
Wool grease, 4½*d.* per lb.
Mohair, 5*d.* per lb.
Sheep, 8*s.* to 15*s.* each.
Oxen, 3*l.* to 5*l.* each.
Ponies, 6*l.* to 10*l.* each.

Relations with Bordering States.

Official relations with the adjacent districts of the Cape Colony and East Griqualand have been generally of a satisfactory nature

A question was raised by certain Baphuiti in Quthing as to the actual boundary between Basutoland and the Cape Colony, near the source of the Telle or Tees River. This has been settled in favour of the Cape Colony, the piece of land above situated which the Bapluiti wished to lay claim to being evidently part of the Herschel District.

Public Works.

The roads in this district are not in as good order as could be desired, considering the labour that has been expended on them during the year. The rugged nature of the country is in great measure responsible for this. The Government Pont on the Orange River has been of great service to traffic, the river having been impassable nearly ten months of the year.

Trade.

The number of general traders' licences issued during the year is sixteen. Some of these trading stations are almost inaccessible for wagons, and trade is carried on under great disadvantages. Rates of wagon transport to this district are exceptionally heavy, the reason alleged being the trying nature of the roads in the Herschel district, which are almost the only outlet for the Quthing trade. Should the road to East Griqualand over Ongeluk's Nek be made passable for wagons, it will give a great impulse to trade in this territory.

Licences issued :—

General trades	16
Hawkers (paid)	10
Hawkers (free)	1
Mill dam licences	Nil

Education.

A report on the aided schools in the district is furnished on a separate Schedule.*

Revenue.

Collections during the year have been as follows :—

Head of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax	2,210 4 0
Licences	160 0 0
Hawkers' licences	10 0 0
Fines	51 8 0
Ferry tolls	294 6 0
Miscellaneous	27 7 0
Fees of Court	22 10 0
Marriage registration	1 12 6
	£2,777 7 6

This compares favourably with the previous year's collection of 1,999*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* The total number of huts on which tax was paid this year is 4,141, and arrear tax amounting to 122*l.* 10*s.* was collected.

Population.

The population of this district is about 20,000.

Medical.

There is no resident medical officer in Quthing, and in urgent cases it is necessary to send to Mohales Hoek, nearly 40 miles distant, for medical assistance.

No cases of small-pox have been reported in the district during the past year. Vaccination has been carried on to some extent.

* Not printed.

BASUTOLAND. 1893–94.

Leprosy appears to be increasing, and a report on the subject has recently been made by the medical officer, Mohales Hoek.

A number of deaths from enteric fever took place in various parts of the district about September 1893, principally among Ba Tembu.

Passes.

The following passes have been issued from this office during the year :—

Ordinary passes - - - -	2,896
To persons seeking service - - -	1,391

Police.

The police at this tation are a smart body of men, and their duties, generally speaking, are well performed. When their duty to Government clashes with the wishes of their Chiefs, they are sometimes placed in awkward positions. This is inevitable in a country like this, where native self-government through the Chiefs is a part of the system.

Patrol reports for the year show as under :—

Number of patrols, 38.
Total number of men engaged, 91.
Estimated distance travelled by collective patrols, 2,921 miles.

Number of Arrests.

For contravening Liquor Regulations - -	1
For contravening Pass Laws - - -	Nil
For other offences - - - -	7

The Returns of Lost and Stolen Stock show as follows :—

Description.	Number reported lost or stolen.	Number traced into Basutoland.	Number not traced.	Number recovered by Police.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses -	1	1	—	1	—	Returned to owner.
Oxen -	8	8	—	8	—	Returned to owner.
Other cattle	1	—	1	—	1	Found at Lady Grey, whence it was reported stolen.
Sheep -	369	54	315	54	315	54 restored to owner, 165 supposed to have been taken to the Transkei, no reason for supposing any of remainder were brought into this district.

The criminal cases tried here during the year are as follows :—

Culpable homicide - - - -	1
Rape - - - - - -	1
Theft - - - - - -	7
Contravention Customs Regulations - -	2
Contravention Trading Regulations - -	1
Assault - - - - - -	2
Contempt of Court - - - -	1
Breach of prison discipline - - - -	1
Contravention of Pass Regulations - - -	1

(Signed) S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

Assistant Commissioner's Office,
Quthing, 30 June, 1894.

QACHA'S NEK.

Annual Report for the Year ending 30th June 1894.

General.

I took over the duties as officer in charge at this station on the 26th October 1893.

During the past year, the general state of the district has been very peaceful, and with the exception of a dispute which has arisen between the Chiefs Mpiti and Sekake, as to certain rights in the neighbourhood of the Qaugua rivulet, relations between the different Chiefs appear to be of a friendly nature.

The dispute above mentioned arose in September last, during the ploughing season, and the Paramount Chief Lerotholi promised to inquire into the matter and settle it, but up to the present it is still in abeyance, and was the cause of hostilities nearly breaking out between Mpiti and Sekake at the beginning of this month (June) as to the right of cutting reeds in the same locality.

The Chiefs have always rendered me ready assistance in tracing and recovering lost or stolen stock, and in bringing thieves to justice.

Several Chiefs and headmen belonging to the Quthing and Mohales Hoek districts have been allowed to pay their hut-tax at this station during the past year, as it is more convenient for them to come here than to go to the stations of their respective districts.

Foot-and-mouth disease, which was prevalent among some of the cattle last year, has entirely disappeared.

On account of exceptionally early frosts this year, the majority of Kaffir corn and mealie crops have been destroyed before they had time to mature. The wheat crop was exceptionally good.

Relations with the neighbouring districts of the Cape Colony have been satisfactory, and the officials there have rendered me every assistance when I have had occasion to call upon them to do so in tracing and recovering lost or stolen stock, and arresting thieves from this district.

Commercial.

There are now two trading stations in the district, one having been recently opened at Mpiti's, and both appear to be doing a fair trade.

Mealies and Kaffir corn are steadily rising in price.

The average prices paid by traders for produce and live stock during the year are as follows:—

Wheat, 3*s.* to 5*s.* per bag.
Mealies, 3*s.* to 6*s.* per bag.
Kaffir corn, 5*s.* to 12*s.* per bag.
Wool, 2*d.* to 3½*d.* per lb.
Mohair, 5*d.* to 6*d.* per lb.
Hides, 1*d.* to 2*d.* per lb.
Cattle, 30*s.* to 4*l.* each.
Horses, 30*s.* to 3*l.* each.
Sheep, 5*s.* to 10*s.* each.
Goats, 4*s.* to 6*s.* each.

Public Works.

During the year the new road from Strachan's shop at Nquatsha to this station was completed, and is in good repair. I regret to say that the portion of the road from Mafube Mission Station to the above-mentioned shop, which I mentioned in a special report of the road, has not yet been repaired by the Colonial Government.

Officers' quarters and office hut were completed during the last year at this Station.

Police.

The detachment has been strengthened by the enrolment of four extra men, and now numbers fourteen. The work done has been satisfactory and the men are very amenable to discipline.

Patrols.

Number of patrols performed, 16.
Number of men engaged, 27.
Estimated distance travelled, 1,650 miles.

Number of Arrests.

For contravening Liquor Regulations - -	1
For contravening Pass Regulations - -	5
For other offences - - - -	8

Estimated distance travelled by police on other duties than regular patrols, 5,500 miles.

Crime.

Few cases of serious crime have occurred. One case of culpable homicide has been dealt with, and another is awaiting trial.

Thieving amongst the Basuto proper is very rare, but is rather prevalent among the foreign natives who have been admitted into the district to reside. The thieving propensities of these people may in time redound to the discredit of the Basuto. Only one case of brandy smuggling has come to my notice, and though I have no doubt that liquor in small quantities is occasionally brought in, it is not sufficient to have any bad effect on the community in general.

The following criminal and civil cases have been tried during the year :—

Theft - - - - -	4
Culpable homcide - - - -	1
Gaol breaking - - - -	1
Contravening Liquor Regulations - -	1
Contravening Pass Regulations - -	3
Contempt of Court - - - -	1
Civil cases - - - - -	1

Lost and Stolen Stock.

The following return shows Lost or Stolen Stock reported during the year ending 30th June 1894 :—

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced into Basutoland.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses - -	6	—	6	1	5	—
Cattle - -	24	24	—	24	—	—

Revenue.

The chief source of revenue is Hut Tax, which has been satisfactorily paid. I am unable to make a comparison with last year's revenue as, as mentioned above, several more Chiefs have been added to the district, and the mode of bringing the Revenue to account has been altered.

BASUTOLAND. 1893–94.

The following is a return of Revenue collected :—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut Tax - - - - - -	1,032 0 6
Licences - - - - - -	20 0 0
Fines - - - - - - -	12 16 0
Fees of Court - - - - - -	0 2 6
	£1,064 19 0

Amount of arrear Tax collected is 176*l.* 10*s.*
Number of huts on which tax was paid, 1,958.

Number of licences issued :—

General traders - - - - -	2
Hawkers' (paid) - - - - -	Nil
Do. (free) - - - - -	Nil
Mill dam licences - - - -	Nil

Passes.

The following is a return of passes issued during the year :—

Seeking work - - - -	314
Other purposes - - - -	1,697
Total - - - - -	2,011

Medical.

The general state of health of the inhabitants of this district appears to be very good. There is no medical officer attached to the station, but I am allowed to call upon the services of the District Surgeon of Matatiele in very urgent cases, though up to the present I have not yet had occasion to do so.

(Signed) JNO. T. GRIFFITH,
Sub-Inspector, Basutoland Mounted Police,
Officer in charge, Qacha's Nek.

Annual Report, Principal Medical Officer, Basutoland, for the year ending 30th June 1894.

I have the honour to report as follows concerning the medical work in this territory during the past year :—

Since I assumed duty here, the additional regulations framed for the guidance of the medical officers have conduced to a greater efficiency in the work done by them.

In January 1894, each station was inspected, the stores checked, and re-adjusted to meet the requirements of the different stations, a considerable saving being thus effected, especially in the outlay on drugs. A system of recording and checking stores has been initiated. The various hospital buildings have been much improved and additional furniture has been supplied at most stations.

The epidemic of small-pox, which at one time threatened to become very serious, has been nearly stamped out. A full report on the subject was forwarded to you on 31st March. Since the date of that report, two fresh outbreaks occurred in the Berea district, but in both instances the disease was confined to the single individuals who had imported it, they having escaped from the quarantine lines in the Leribe district. The weekly reports from the Medical Officer, Leribe, indicate that the epidemic is practically at an end, a result which is largely attributable to the thorough manner in which the infected villages and the inhabitants were disinfected before the quarantine was removed.

According to your instructions, a careful record of vaccination has been kept and the returns sent in by the district medical officers give a total of 8,031 cases for the year.

The proposed charge for medicine supplied to out-patients will undoubtedly considerably reduce the attendance, but the increased efficiency of the work which a smaller attendance will allow will more than compensate for the falling off in numbers.

An exhaustive enquiry into the question of leprosy in so far as it affects this territory has been instituted, and is being carried out by the district medical officers, and when completed a full report, which it is hoped will contain some valuable information bearing on the question, will be presented.

Arrangements are being made for the more careful and systematic recording of cases, and I hope to be in a position next year to incorporate in my report some useful statistical information in connection with the medical work.

The increasing need for insisting on proper sanitation at the various stations was emphasized by the epidemic of typhoid fever which occurred at Mafeteng this year.

I append a tabular statement of the total number of patients treated.

(Signed) EDW. C. LONG,
Principal Medical Officer.

BASUTOLAND. 1893–94.

Return showing the Number of Attendances at the Government Dispensaries in Basutoland, during the year ending June 30, 1894.

District.	Out patients.	In-patients.	Vaccinations.	Totals.
Maseru - -	5,591	60	2,693	8,344
Mafeting -	7,027	45	1,804	8,876
Mohales Hoek -	6,304	77	920	7,301
Leribe - -	3,930	50	2,614	6,594
Total -	22,852	232	8,031	31,115

Annual Report Medical Officer, Maseru, for the year ending June 30, 1894.

I have the honour to report as under concerning the medical work in this district during the past twelve months.

I assumed duty here on the 15th November 1893.

The annexed table shows the number of patients treated.

——	Admitted.	Cured.	Relieved.	Died.	Remain in Hospital.
In-patients -	60	25	19	2	5
Out-patients -	New cases 4,895. Subsequent attendances 986.				

The district has, with the exception of several cases of chicken-pox and measles, been free from epidemics, and, bearing in mind the large number of natives entering the district from infected territories, it is fortunate to have escaped the advent of small-pox.

Vaccination has been vigorously carried out, upwards of 2,690 cases having been done at the hospital since July last.

The health of the police detachment has been on the whole good. Venereal diseases are, however, very prevalent among them.

Some repairs and alterations are urgently needed to the Hospital buildings. The proposed conversion of two small wards into one large one will add considerably to the comfort of the patients.

I regret to have to report that the sanitary condition of the station is not as it should be. Suggestions for regulating and enforcing sanitation have been submitted for approval to the Resident Commissioner.

(Signed) EDW. C. LONG,
Medical Officer.

Annual Report Medical Officer, Leribe, for the year ending 30th June 1894.

At the end of the present year, I have the honour to forward for your perusal a report of the medical work accomplished in the district.

The public health has not been as good as in previous years, several epidemics, happily very mild in form, having been prevalent.

The total number of patients having attended the Leribe Hospital has been 3,980, of whom 3,023 were new cases, 907 subsequent attendances and 50 treated as in-patients.

The majority of hospital patients were admitted for surgical operations; almost all did well, only one having died shortly after admission. Another death from *pemphigus manatorum*, admitted *in extremis*, took place at the beginning of the year.

The usual diseases met at the dispensary were, heading the list, gastric disorders 536 cases, bronchial disorders 218, and rheumatism 127. I note also the frequency of abscesses, wounds, and venereal affections. True mokhaola, or syphilis, was only detected in 84 cases; but many diseases, such as synovitis, eczema, &c., had a specific origin.

In October last, the first cases of small-pox were seen at Monuamyana's, a village situated two hours away from the Leribe police camp. The infection came from the Free State, having been imported there from the Randt. The epidemic invaded, one after another, four villages and has lastly located itself in a fifth one at Chaka's, where it is dying out.

From 250 to 300 natives suffered from the disease; 20 cases were fatal, but the fever was of a mild character generally.

An epidemic of varicella prevalent at the same time rendered the keeping of the quarantine somewhat irksome at first, as natives could not be made to understand the difference between the two diseases.

An epidemic of measles, followed by one of ophthalmia, was also rife during the months of March and April, but has now entirely disappeared.

The health of the police detachment, as well as of the prisoners in gaol, has been fair during the year.

The hospital buildings are in good repair, though some improvements and alterations are still necessary to make them perfect.

The sanitary condition of the police camp does not call for any special remarks.

(Signed) G. CASALIS,
Medical Officer.

BASUTOLAND. 1893–4.

Annual Report Medical Officer, Mafeteng, for the year ending 30th June 1894.

The number of persons treated at the Government Free Dispensary during the past year was 7,027; of these, 5,615 new cases 1,412 re-attendances.

In addition, 24 persons were treated at the hospital as in-patients for periods varying with the necessity of their cases.

Of the above numbers, 561, or 10 per cent. of all cases, were treated for some manifestation of syphilis, and, though this may appear a high percentage if taken to represent the average prevalence of the disease in this district, I am nevertheless of opinion that the facts observed are such as to encourage the belief that the frequency and virulence of this disorder are declining, while a larger proportion of persons affected yearly present themselves for treatment.

II. The hospital buildings are in good repair, and the accommodation has been found sufficient for all ordinary demands.

III. The health of the police force has been very good, nothing but minor ailments having come under observation, with one exception, where it was found necessary to invalid from the force a man suffering from old-standing constitutional disease.

The health of the prisoners has also been very satisfactory.

IV. Public vaccination has been steadily proceeded with; during the year, 1,804 persons have been vaccinated at the free dispensary. No case of small-pox has been reported in the district.

V. In April this year, instructions were issued for an inspection by the Medical Officer of all lepers and persons supposed to be lepers residing within the district; a systematic investigation was organised, and the results of the inquiry have been embodied in a separate report, now in the hands of the principal Medical Officer.

VI. During a year the meteorological conditions of which were those known to be favourable to the outbreak and spread of certain zymotic diseases, I have to report comparatively few cases which come under this heading.

An outbreak of typhoid fever occurring during the months of March and April, affecting European and native residents on the station, has formed the subject of a special report by me earlier in the year.

With the carrying out of the scheme now under consideration for supplying the station with pure water from a spring distant nearly two miles from this outskirts, there is every reason to believe that this disease will be stamped out so far as cases originating in the station are concerned.

Two or three limited outbreaks of diphtheria have also been recorded. The disease was prevalent in the neighbouring

territories early in the year, and the cases here were rather epidemic than endemic.

To the want of subsoil drainage and the absence of sanitary regulations, I attribute the repeated recurrence of the disease once introduced, evils which would make themselves more severely felt in a season remarkable for its heavy rainfall.

(Signed) M. E. LEICESTER,
Medical Officer.

Annual Report Medical Officer, Mohales Hoek, for the Year ending 30th June 1894.

I have the honour to submit to you a report of the medical work done in this district during the year ending 30th June 1894.

The following table shows the number of patients treated at the hospital and dispensary :—

(*a*.)	In-patients - - - -	77
(*b*.)	Out-patients :	
	(1.) New patients - - -	4,383
	(2.) Subsequent attendances -	1,844
	Total - - - -	6,304

There is a slight decrease in numbers compared with last year.

Syphilis is still prevalent, but there has been a steady decrease in the numbers presenting themselves for treatment during the last three years. Hereditary cases of the disease are getting more frequent, but the illness, as a rule, runs a mild course and is very amenable to treatment.

Cases of gastric trouble, principally dyspepsia, are numerous and they form almost half of the number of those who present themselves at the dispensary.

Nine hundred and twenty persons were vaccinated during the year ; of these 189 came under the new regulations. The people do not take kindly to vaccination. During the last six months only four presented themselves voluntarily to undergo the operation, although notices were issued from time to time urging upon them the necessity for vaccination.

A leprosy investigation is being made in this district as in others in Basutoland. Up to the present time, I have seen and examined 28 lepers in this district and 14 in Quthing.

There have been no epidemics during the year.

The health of the police detachment has been good.

BASUTOLAND. 1893–4.

The hospital buildings have lately been overhauled, and they are now in a good state of repair.

The sanitary condition of the camp is satisfactory. The water supply is ample and of good quality. I would recommend that the reeds round the cistern be cleared away and that a pump be got for the reservoir instead of having it open and dipping in buckets, as at present.

(Signed) W. M. MACFARLANE, M.D.,
Acting Medical Officer.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 152.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 1894–5.

(For Report for 1893–94, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 123.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
February 1896.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
117	Trinidad and Tobago	1893
118	Falkland Islands	,,
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,
123	Basutoland	1893–4
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	,,
126	Ceylon	,,
127	Fiji	,,
128	Grenada	,,
129	Sierra Leone	,,
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–4
131	British New Guinea	1892–3 & 1893–4
132	Lagos	1893
133	British Guiana	1893–4
134	Jamaica	,,
135	Newfoundland	1893
136	Gold Coast	,,
137	Zululand	1894
138	Bermuda	,,
139	Bahamas	,,
140	Barbados	,,
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
142	Malta	,,
143	Gambia	,,
144	Windward Islands	,,
145	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
146	Gibraltar	,,
147	Falkland Islands	,,
148	Hong Kong	,,
149	Straits Settlements	,,
150	Lagos	,,
151	Seychelles	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

No. 152.

BASUTOLAND.

[For Report for 1893–94, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 123.]

SIR HERCULES ROBINSON to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Cape Town,
August 19, 1895.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your information, a copy of a Despatch from the Acting Resident Commissioner of Basutoland enclosing the annual reports on the territory for the year to 30th June last.

It is satisfactory to find that the dispute between Lerothodi and his brother Maama, which at one time threatened to be very serious, has been disposed of, and that no other important tribal dispute is now demanding attention. I trust that the land troubles, arising from the growth of the large native population in Basutoland will not become serious, but I fear that there are some grounds for apprehension on this account.

I consider that a fair amount of improvement is shown to have occurred in almost every branch of the Administration.

I have, &c.

HERCULES ROBINSON,
Governor and High Commissioner.

Resident Commissioner's Office, Basutoland,
June 29, 1895.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency a report upon British Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1895, covering copies of a report by the Acting Government Secretary, together with those of Assistant Commissioners and Medical Officers.

2. The personality of the Paramount Chief is so great a factor in national affairs, that it is well to glance at his character from year to year, and see how far it appears to adjust itself to the conditions of the tribe and the circumstances of the time.

Lerothodi's intemperance was a distinctive feature in his previous history. In last year's report, I expressed the belief that he had then made a powerful effort to eschew drink, and it is now with great satisfaction I am able to confirm the impression, and state that the past year has in this respect been marked by so great an improvement as to warrant particular notice of it.

Apart from this, he has displayed grasp of work, a desire to be guided by obligations which now obtain, and a true interest in the welfare of his tribe. He has desired and endeavoured to deserve the support and encouragement of Government, with whom he shows every disposition to co-operate in avoiding foreign complications, in checking and punishing crime, and in reminding his people of their duties and traditions as a law-abiding and industrious tribe.

3. In the past few years allusion has been made to opposition experienced by Lerothodi from a section of younger brothers inspired by Masupha, who sought to undermine the Paramount Chief's authority and grasp at independence.

My last report described the trend of this policy, showing how, in the course of its development, there had been critical moments which might have led to grave confusion through the determined and obstinate attitude of Maama and the injudicious conduct of Lerothodi himself. I then worked for the becoming submission of Maama to his elder brother, but refused to lend myself to what was deemed the Paramount Chief's improper method of procedure.

In August last, the crisis of this intrigue, which had transcended all other affairs for several years, was reached.

The Paramount Chief had, in the lawful exercise of his functions, adjudged a native case affecting a man within his jurisdiction, who, however, courted the Chieftainship of Maama. The judgment of fine was treated for months with contempt.

Maama backed the defaulter, disputed jurisdiction, and defied execution. In due time, Lerothodi sent messengers with instructions to call for and, if necessary, levy the fine. The messengers acted accordingly, but were, on their return journey, set upon by Maama's people, the fine recaptured, and one messenger wounded, who afterwards died from the effects.

The Paramount Chief had up to this time acted in a judicial, patient, and forbearing spirit. He had previously pressed me to take up the matter, which however, I had declined, advising him to first exhaust all proper means to settle their own immediate affairs in council.

The treatment and death of the messenger roused his emotions, the nation, wrung with excitement, was called out under arms, and the two parties arrayed themselves at close quarters for a struggle.

The approaches to Maama's country were fortified with walls and he expressed his resolve to oppose Lerothodi's advance and fight. Masupha and others threw in their lot with Maama.

At this juncture the Paramount Chief appealed to me to take up the burden of the affair, as a combat was imminent which he

could not control. I then intervened, and arriving on the scene as the forces were almost in motion, took command of the situation.

Masupha, who as an elder and guardian should have been on the side of order, was so implicated as to forbid my securing his aid and advice. Many other Chiefs afforded me help.

Seeing that Lerothodi had acted well within his rights and was not to blame, I formed a court with him and summoned Maama, together with those charged with contempt and violence, who, after some demur ascribed to fear, appeared under escort of an officer sent to give a safe conduct.

The case occupied two days in public Pitso.

Most of the leading Chiefs and councillors of the nation were present and condemned Maama's acts in unmistakeable terms.

He and his people were found culpable and eager to disturb the public peace. Judgment was given that :—

1. Maama pay a fine of 100 cattle. His people pay a fine of 200 cattle. His two chief councillors pay a fine of 5 cattle each.
2. That the man who struck the blow which killed the messenger be delivered up for trial.
3. That some lawless men living on the border line be removed and their villages immediately destroyed.
4. That a young son of Letsie named Borane, who had taken a leading part in the disturbance, be handed over for tutelage.
5. That the people living within the disputed area known as Koro Koro take their orders in future from Lerothodi and not from Maama.

This judgment was carried out effectively and the fines paid the next day. The young Chief Borane fled on horseback, but was soon surrendered and placed in my hands by Lerothodi for custody in prison, where he remained for three months, behaving well, and was then enrolled as an ordinary policeman.

I considered it inexpedient to then define Maama's southern boundary, seeing that feeling against him was very strong and the evidence about it liable to prejudice. Moreover, it was to be hoped that, when antipathies subsided, his and Lerothodi's people would again blend without the necessity for lines, always objectionable in this country if avoidable.

The events which for years led up to this affair and its consummation form an historical landmark, and may be regarded as an upheaval, such as is common to most nations, through which the Basuto steadied themselves in time and became amenable to advice and reason. This is to their credit.

4. There have been other political events and disputes which, though dwarfed in importance by the one above mentioned, gave considerable trouble.

The land question is the great and fertile source of such troubles, requiring continuous attention. They may be expected to recur annually. The country is circumscribed, the population

is growing, the land suitable for cultivation is all allotted and taken up, and the rising generation of men are no longer able to support themselves upon it. When leading Chiefs die, a scramble ensues over the inheritance amongst the children. We have during the year witnessed a serious stage in the scramble over the late Paramount Chief's inheritance. Others of a similar but less critical nature arose from the same source.

Jonathan claimed a large share of the mountain pastures as having been inherited by him from his father Molapo.

Lerothodi took exception to this as a claim, but awarded him, after much persuasion, a certain proportion which was, however, received with little grace and created a good deal of ill-feeling between the two Chiefs, who are still feinting about it.

The mountains, formerly common pasture, are being largely occupied and cultivated and contain practically no unallotted spheres.

The Paramount Chief has undertaken at a future date to make a personal inspection of the inner mountains, where he has never yet been, and to further consider Jonathan's plea.

Similarly, the clans and children of Ramanella and Matela, unsettled ever since the death of those Chiefs, have quarrelled over the inheritances.

Though both Chiefs lived in Leribe District under the fiscal chieftainship of Jonathan Molapo, they have always owed direct fealty to the Paramount Chief. Lerothodi and Jonathan differed over tribal details and complications ensued. These matters have, however, been provisionally adjusted by the timely mediation of Government and efforts made to reconcile conflicting interests.

Further cases affecting chieftainship and land have been treated at discretion by district officers when necessity arose.

About new year some mischievous rumours were circulated through the medium of an aged sorceress who prophesied invasion, disarmament, and other things. But little serious attention was paid to the rumours, which died a natural death.

5. The general temper of the Basuto may be described as progressive. The characteristics of the Kaffir race predominate, and it would be unwise to attempt vigorous eradication or to graft prematurely upon them European ideas and institutions neither suitable nor sympathetic.

They are naturally suspicious of all innovations and cling affectionately to their country. So long as their customs are not generally repugnant to civilized thought and they are amenable to such laws as are necessary to govern them and their relations with civilized neighbours, there is motive for the exercise of forbearance during their efforts towards development. Though some superstitions may influence them, it is hard to trace in the present day any relics of a national religion. The ethics of Christianity have intervened, and may be said to supply their doctrines of morality. It would be quite incorrect, however, to suppose that the nation was moral in practice.

The industry of the people is proverbial; some 25,384 have again gone abroad to labour during the year. They learn the discipline of labour and appreciate the corresponding value of money, acquiring at the same time probably such vices as are readily picked up in their travels, and losing some of the qualities which the primitive native is acknowledged to possess.

6. In suppressing crime and facilitating the ends of justice the Chiefs, as a rule, behaved well.

One of Masupha's sons, believed to have been accessory to thieving, was brought up for trial, but dismissed for want of sufficient evidence,which no doubt was concealed.

Letsienyana, eldest son of Lerothodi, who has charge of a large ward and receives an allowance, misconducted himself in various ways, interfered with the jurisdiction of his magistrate, and tortured a man on account of alleged witchcraft. He was punished for the latter act and suspended for three months.

Lesala, eldest son of Chopo, a Chief of the Bapushudi, being concerned in cattle-thieving and gun-running, was arrested and tried and is now with eight followers undergoing sentence of imprisonment.

7. A demand has lately sprung up for industrial teaching. The Paramount Chief solicits the building of a school of industry in Central Basutoland. I replied that it would be too big an undertaking for Government, but, should the people really cherish the idea, they should come forward and provide the means for such an institution, in which case Government would surely direct their efforts and control it for them.

They are able to bear the burden of their own advancement in such ways, and, if willing, should be encouraged to help themselves. It is necessary, nevertheless, to bear in mind, that ordinary labour is itself a great industry, desirable of cultivation, that South Africa requires ordinary labour largely, and that a preponderance of natives skilled in technical trades might not be beneficial to themselves or their surroundings.

8. The liquor traffic, though less than formerly, is by no means extinguished. Our police, who patrolled 32,168 miles, have done good work towards suppression, and neighbouring officials co-operated most cordially in putting down border canteens, and deprecating the traffic.

But, so long as a class of persons disposed to pursue covertly an illicit and profitable trade exist on one side of a border, a native race on the other side is easily tempted to gratify its vicious tastes regardless of consequences.

Though Chiefs readily support the law when offenders are caught, some of them are the worst offenders, debauching heavily if they can procure spirits.

9. Trade generally during the year has been very bad, owing in a great measure to almost entire failure of the mealie crop, which is a primary purchasing power. The amended railway rates afforded facilities for clearance of previously accumulated

stocks, mortgaged to Colonial and Free State merchants who feed Basutoland with merchandize.

As railways close in, the business of riding transport is becoming more and more more limited, and the traffic to and from Basutoland offers a useful field for this enterprise to a large class of Free State Burghers, who pursue it with lucrative results.

10. The crops of cereals promise one of the most prolific yields of recent years. Kaffir corn especially is abundant, so much so that it is feared the manufacture of "beer" may yield an abundant crop of disputes and broken heads as the outcome of festive gatherings. Prolific seasons are also conducive to laziness.

11. A remarkable development of the year may be indicated in the success of agricultural shows. These have been held at most of the magisterial stations. Their institution and success are due to the inspiration and labour of Assistant Commissioners, aided materially by committees of established traders, who have cordially supported the movement, to which also the Basutoland Chamber of Commerce has lent an impetus. The results have been to show the natives what kind of grain to grow with profit, to enlighten them upon the subject of agriculture and the advantage of improving class of cereals and quality of stock. The manufacture of pottery, carosses, reims, marketable wire-work the rearing of poultry, and the commercial value of better and cleaner wool have, amongst other things, formed part of what may be termed this educational scheme, which we are led to think may be of great advantage.

These shows have received every practicable encouragement from the Government, and the people are being taught to support them by contributions towards the expenses, hitherto borne largely and voluntarily by the white community.

12. Statistics show a slight increase in serious crime as well as in minor offences. This may be the results of increased police activity and a greater tendency to refer certain cases to our courts.

13. The volume of export in grain, in spite of the mealie failure, is in excess of last year. This is due to accumulated stocks. Imports for the calendar year ended 31st December 1894 show a heavy falling off; but in the subsequent half year there was considerable improvement.

14. Hospital work here has, in the opinion of medical officers, been satisfactorily maintained.

Though the return of ordinary attendances was lessened, the experiment of small charges to cover partial cost of medicines proved successful and had the effect of keeping off many cases of a trifling and vexatious nature.

Though the general health has been good, epidemics of small-pox prevailed in two districts. Vaccination was largely carried on; some 32,234 were vaccinated.

All possible efforts were made to check spread of the disease by isolation and other preventive measures.

Medical opinion is to the effect that syphilis continues to yield gradually to the treatment afforded. The medical officers have for many months been employed upon an exhaustive inquiry upon the subject of leprosy, a separate report* on which is transmitted.

The supply of good water to certain magistracies, where there are locations and the want is badly felt, is calculated to do much good from a health point of view.

15. The successful efforts reported last year in limiting the period of hut-tax collection have been repeated, and the system is now fairly established. Berea district again forms a notable exception in consequence of the inertness of Masupha who, whether from old age or ineptitude, fails to lead his people to keep pace with useful movements of a progressive nature.

16. Education continues to be carried on effectively by the various mission societies, whose efforts and devotion merit every praise and encouragement. Their work is at times very uphill, and there is probably little reward to be found in the gratitude of their pupils; but the results of their unobtrusive labours may be seen in a variety of ways. Manual labour forms part of the curriculum at all training schools, and the honour of labour is being generally preached.

A separate educational report is forwarded.*

17. In drawing attention to the reports of the Acting Government Secretary, dealing more fully with statistics, and other officers of the administration, I beg leave to express appreciation of their good and effective services as a body.

I have, &c.

His Excellency
The High Commissioner,
Cape Town.

G. Y. LAGDEN,
Acting Resident Commissioner.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1894–95.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The general revenue of the territory has been well maintained and is slightly in excess of that of the previous year. Increases are shown under the heads Hut Tax, Post Office, and Miscellaneous.

The total receipts amounted to 44,627*l.* made up as follows:—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Colonial contribution	18,000	0	0
Hut tax	21,905	9	6
Post Office	1,071	18	9
Licences	1,392	5	0
Fines	381	3	9
Ferry tolls	521	15	9
Fees	48	14	3
Miscellaneous receipts	1,305	18	10
Total	44,627	5	10

* Not printed.

BASUTOLAND. 1894–95.

Arrear Tax received amounted to 1,109*l.* as against 1,882*l.* last year. Tax was paid on 44,677 huts, compared with 40,629 in 1893–4.

The expenditure for the above period totalled 43,064*l.*, being 1,072*l.* less than estimated.

Trade and Commerce.

The dutiable goods imported into Basutoland during the year ended 31 December 1894 amounted to a gross value of 68,674*l.* being 29,326*l.* less than in 1893.

The serious decline in the volume of imports compared with the previous year is no doubt due to the severe depression in trade from which the country has been suffering, and the consequent fall in the prices of all agricultural produce.

The principal articles of import are woollen and cotton goods haberdashery, saddlery, tinware, agricultural implements, and groceries. The three first items represent respectively 45, 8·50 and 9·50 per cent. of the whole imports. The bulk of the merchandize is supplied by the United Kingdom.

Exports for the year 1894, while exceeding those of 1893 to a considerable extent in volume, show, however, a large falling off in the declared value.

The chief articles of export consisting, as they do, of agricultural products (food stuffs) subject to the fluctuations of uncertain markets, falls in prices realised must necessarily affect, to a considerable extent, the purchasing power of the people whose medium of exchange it is.

The decline in the value of exports amounts to 20,550*l.*

Below is a statement of exports, which is exclusive of produce taken out of Basutoland by hawkers and natives, of which it is impossible to get a return.

Article.	1893.		1894.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Wheat - - Bags	128,740	63,416 11 0	129,821	44,426 8 0
Mealies - - „	65,779	17,452 9 0	68,101	16,265 9 0
Kaffir corn - „	4,764	1,942 19 2	6,526	2,528 15 2
Meal - - „	2,843	2,038 2 6	921	644 0 6
Wool - - Lbs.	972,505	14,355 11 0	903,791	12,411 0 3
Mohair - - „	30,460	792 8 6	68,449	2,151 8 0
Cattle - - No.	715	2,061 11 0	639	2,072 5 9
Horses - - „	220	972 10 0	519	2,157 4 0
Miscellaneous - -	—	575 18 4	—	751 0 2
Total - -	—	103,608 0 6	—	83,407 10 4

There were issued the following licences :—

General traders - - - - -	132
Hawkers (paid) - - - - -	75
Hawkers (free) - - - - -	69
Dam licences - - - - -	2

Agricultural and Meteorological.

The harvest now being reaped is an abundant one; maize and Kaffir corn are exceptionally so.

Agricultural shows, a new feature in the annals of this country, have been held with considerable success at the various magistracies. These have been initiated, liberally supported, and carried out by the European residents, the Government contributing in each case.

It is hoped by the aid of these shows to bring home to the Basuto the necessity, if they wish to compete in the foreign markets, of producing cereals of a higher quality, both by planting better seed as well as by adopting a more enlightened system of cultivation.

Some of them are already showing an advancement in their methods, and several steam-threshing machines were brought into the country and used to a considerable extent last year. A mill has been erected near Maseru and is freely used by the natives, I am told.

No epidemics have been reported among stock, which is now increasing to such an extent as to present a serious problem in regard to the provision of pasturage.

This overstocking, together with neglect in the matter of sires, is leading to deterioration, which is now very noticeable in the ponies; stock, cattle especially, being the native standard of wealth, all animals are jealously accumulated and seldom is a beast disposed of. It is impossible to form an estimate of the live stock now in Basutoland.

The average rainfall for the year was 34·23 inches. The daily range of temperature is at times great, being as much as 50°. The maximum registered was 100° and minimum 18°.

Population.

Population is increasing steadily both by natural increase and immigration. According to the Census of 1891 there was a total of 211,324 souls; it is now estimated at 250,000.

It has become a difficult matter to provide ground for the rising generation. This is strikingly illustrated by the manner in which every available acre of space in the mountains, hitherto reserved as pasture land, is being greedily taken up and cultivated.

Labour and Passes.

Labour is both plentiful and cheap in the territory.

Numbers of men go annually to the mining centres and adjoining States to work, bringing back with them considerable sums of money. Of late years, owing to the more extended use of labour-

saving machinery in the agricultural districts of the Free State, a very lucrative field has been much diminished. During the past year the following passes were issued:—

Labour.		Other purposes.		Totals.	
1893–4.	1894–5.	1893–4.	1894–5.	1893–4.	1894–5.
20,000	25,384	32,207	37,495	52,207	62,879

Police and Crime.

The police force of the country consists of—

11 European Officers.

12 European Constables.

17 Native N. C. Officers.

205 Native Privates.

The efficiency and conduct of the men are good.

The force is broken up into small detachments stationed at the various Magistracies. The duties the men are called upon to perform are varied and arduous, among the most important of which may be mentioned patrolling of the border in suppression of brandy smuggling and the tracing of stolen stock.

Although it may appear at first sight that the results of the patrols set forth below are poor in comparison with the work done, it must be borne in mind that with a large population living along the boundary, who are in sympathy with smugglers, and never fail to seize an opportunity of frustrating the police, the difficulties of the duty are greatly increased.

The following is a return of patrols:—

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Approximate Distance travelled.	Arrests.	
751	1,663	32,168 miles	Contravention of liquor laws	54
			Do. of pass laws - -	155
			Other offences - - -	44
			Total - - -	253

In nearly every instance where lost or stolen stock has been traced into Basutoland from the neighbouring states, the animals

have been recovered and restored. Subjoined is a return of such stock :—

Stock.	Reported lost.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced into Basutoland.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses -	102	38	64	35	67	2 recovered in Orange Free State. 2 traced out of Basutoland again.
Cattle -	134	48	86	47	87	14 recovered and found dead by owners.
Sheep -	155	20	135	19	136	1 killed. 33 found by owners.
Goats -	20	18	2	—	20	2 goats found by owners.

The returns of crime show an increase of 158 cases in excess of reports for 1893–4, chiefly, however, in minor charges and contraventions of the pass laws. Small increases occur in convictions for theft (principally of stock) and breaches of the liquor laws. On the other hand, there is a decrease in the number of homicide charges.

Below is a list of convictions during the year :—

Assault - - - - -	20
Birth, concealment of - - - -	2
Customs Regulations, breach of - - -	4
Contempt of Court - - - -	1
Drunk and creating disturbance - - -	3
Firearms, breach of laws regarding - -	1
Forger - - - - -	1
Fraud - - - - -	3
Homicide, culpable - - - -	7
Liquor laws, breach of - - - -	60
Murder - - - - -	1
Pass laws, breach of - - - -	165
Rape - - - - - -	2
Resisting Police - - - - -	9
Theft - - - - - -	77
Unspecified minor charges - - -	61
Total - - - - -	417

Civil suits adjudicated upon numbered 23.

Gaols.

Prison accommodation has been now provided at each station throughout the territory. The gaols are in good repair, and are carefully kept in sanitary condition. The health of prisoners has been good; no serious illness or deaths have occurred.

The number of prisoners received into gaol was 338. The total number in prison on 30th June was 79.

Education.

With the exception of two undenominational schools, all the schools in Basutoland are conducted by the Paris Evangelical Mission Society, English Church, and Roman Catholic missions. Those schools which receive Government grants-in-aid have been inspected by officers who report, on the whole, fair progress.

Industrial training is afforded by the Paris Evangelical Society and Roman Catholic Mission for both boys and girls. The former are being instructed in stone-cutting, building, blacksmithing, and other useful handicrafts. Many who have passed out of the institutes may be found carrying on their trades in various parts.

The girls are taught useful domestic work.

A number of lads have been placed at Lovedale by the Government for the purpose of being taught trades. Latest reports of their progress are gratifying.

The total number of schools in the territory is 144, with 7,543 scholars on the books, having a mean average attendance of 5,131. Grants on account of education aggregated 3,799*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*

Public Works.

During the past year new quarters have been provided for a medical officer at Quthing, a gaol at Berea, and quarters for the Government Secretary at Maseru. This last was necessary, that officer having hitherto occupied a dwelling-house held on lease, which it was desirable to discontinue.

Waterworks have been carried out at Mafeteng, Quthing, and a supplementary line of piping laid at Maseru. All of these works were urgently required for health reasons, the supplies of water at those stations being both inadequate and impure.

Other useful works in the way of maintenance of public buildings, ponts, ferry-boats, and bye roads have been carried out.

In July last contracts were entered into for the repair and maintenance of the main roads throughout the country by a private contractor. Now, after a twelvemonth trial of the experiment, I think I may say that, from reports furnished me, it has been on the whole successful. The work has been carried out satisfactorily at a saving to the department of expense, and of the time of officers, which has been devoted to other duties.

Post Office and Telegraphs.

The Basutoland postal system has been affiliated to that of the Cape Colony since the present Administration took over the country in 1884, and is administered by the Postmaster General, Cape Town. Postal revenue for the year ended 30th June 1895, was 1,071*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.*, of which 896*l.* 1*s.* was earned by the Post Office, and 175*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.* by the telegraphs.

The total expenditure for the year has been 1934*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.*, distributed as follow:—

Expenditure.	Amount.
	£ *s.* *d.*
Salaries	375 12 7
Conveyance of mails	1,486 12 1
Offices requisites and cost of administration	71 17 8
Total	1,934 2 4

Mail services are regularly maintained in connection with the Cape Colony and Orange Free State by both cart and horse-post.

The numbers of the different mail matter posted in Basutoland during the 12 months to 31st March are as follows:—

Letters.	No.
Posted for delivery in Basutoland, Cape Colony, and Orange Free State at 1*d.*	70,984
For British Protectorate and Mashonaland at 4*d.*	312
Bechuanaland, Natal, and South African Republic at 2*d.*	5,824
United Kingdom and Foreign at 2½*d.*	7,825
Registered letters	715
Post-cards	2,576
Newspapers	14,536
Book packets and samples	5,735
Parcels	1,326

Official correspondence carried free amounted to 8,852 letters, and 20,604 books, valued at 116*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.* Correspondence received for delivery was as follows:—

Letters	122,782
Post-cards	1,973
Books	13,091
Papers	47,320
Parcels	8,965

Two stations in Basutoland viz., Maseru and Mafeteng, are in telegraphic communication with the systems of the Cape Colony and Orange Free State. The length of lines open is approximately 13 miles.

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During the year ending 31st March the following messages have been despatched and received:—

—	No.	Words.
Paid messages despatched - - -	2,652	32,130
Government messages despatched - -	454	12,176
Messages received for delivery - -	2,645	39,423

The value of Government messages despatched was 65*l.*

Money Order and Savings Bank business is conducted at all post offices in Basutoland, and the following figures may be of interest.

Money Orders issued in Basutoland during 12 *months to* 31*st March* 1895.

Drawn on	No.	Value.
		£ s. d.
Cape Colony and Basutoland - -	1,397	2,882 14 11
United Kingdom, Foreign, and British Colonies.	296	1,198 4 4
South African Republic - - -	212	368 2 8
Orange Free State - - - -	240	559 11 9
Total - - - -	2,145	5,008 13 8

Money Orders drawn on Basutoland.

Where drawn.	No.	Value.
		£ s. d.
Cape Colony - - - -	295	642 19 11
United Kingdom, Foreign and British Colonies.	43	156 18 10
South African Republic - - -	147	382 7 7
Orange Free State - - - -	167	239 3 10
Total - - - -	652	1,421 10 2

During the same period 19 savings bank accounts have been opened and one closed; 84 deposits, aggregating 700*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*, have been made, 16 withdrawals, amounting to 314*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*, have taken place.

Hospitals.

The reports of the Medical Officers deal fully with the work of this branch.

An epidemic of small-pox of a mild type has been prevalent in the Mohale's Hoek and Mafeteng districts. There were but few deaths. Vaccination has been carried on vigorously by doctors, other Government officers, and missionaries. A fair proportion of the tribe has now been vaccinated. As a precautionary measure no native is granted a pass to leave Basutoland unless he produces a vaccination certificate.

General.

I have pleasure in bringing to your notice the ready assistance rendered by Chiefs to the police in tracing and arresting criminals, and recovering stolen stock. Measures for the eradication of "Burrweed" continue to be carried out.

Brandy smuggling appears to have been carried on to a somewhat less extent than last year.

With the assistance of our police several convictions have been obtained in the Orange Free State Courts against illicit canteen keepers.

The Free State authorities are most cordial in their co-operation with our officers in suppressing this trade, and in other border matters.

The system of curtailing the time occupied in the collection of hut tax, inaugurated last year, was again successfully pursued, though the Chief Masupha was conspicuous for his delay and inertness.

I have the honour to submit the following reports for the year:—

Assistant Commissioner, Leribe.
Do. Berea.
Do. Maseru.
Do. Mafeteng.
Do. Mohale's Hoek.
Do. Quthing.
Officer in charge, Qacha's Nek.
Do. Buthabuthe.
Principal Medical Officer.
Medical Officer, Leribe.
Do. Mafeteng.
Do. Mohale's Hoek.

ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

LERIBE.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1895.

In my last Annual Report I alluded to the claims of Motsoene Joseph Molapo, based upon his descent from the Chief Letsie and Molapo, and to the possibility of future difficulty in adjusting the relationship between him and the Chief Jonathan Molapo, who has, since the insanity of Joseph became apparent, assumed, with the support of the Government, the Paramount Chief, and the majority of Molapo's people, the Chieftainship of the Leribe District. This is evidently resented by Motsoene who has, however, seldom ventured to openly assert his claims to the Chieftainship of Molapo, but who has repeatedly demanded that he should be allotted a portion of the District within which he might exercise a more independent authority.

Jonathan has naturally resisted this, and Motsoene's own character renders it improbable that he will obtain, by his personal influence or popularity, a larger share of chieftainship than he at present enjoys.

The relations between Jonathan and Joel appear to have considerably changed of late, in the direction of a more friendly understanding. The Chiefs have met at several political gatherings, have amicably greeted each other, and have exchanged messages as to their affairs. It is to be hoped that this reconciliation may prove to be permanent and for the good of the District.

During the year some of Joel's people living in the Maloti, in the valley of one of the tributaries of the Orange River, have had a dispute with the Chief Ledingoana, as to ploughing rights. The matter has been in the hands of the Paramount Chief, who has defined the rights of Molapo's people in that neighbourhood.

In the month of February the Paramount Chief, in accordance with promises made by the late Chief Letsie, sent his representatives to allot to Jonathan, as the heir of Molapo, certain lands in the mountains to be used as cattle posts by the Leribe people. Jonathan was not satisfied with the extent of country given him; considering that by virtue of previous occupation by Molapo, a piece of ground at present occupied by Bereng Letsie should have been included in the grant. Lerothodi has promised to reconsider the matter, but nothing further has so far been done, and Jonathan complains of the treatment he has received in the matter.

In March the Paramount Chief arrived at Kueneng, intending to place there Mitchel, the son of Peete Ramanella. Acting under instructions, I, together with the Assistant Commissioner, Berea, attended the meeting. Jonathan did not obey the Paramount Chief's summons to the meeting, and in his absence Lerothodi declined to proceed with the installation of Mitchel. Jonathan in thus neglecting the summons of his Chief, was probably actuated by his feeling of resentment at Lerothodi's action in the matter of the mountain land before referred to. He was also

doubtless irritated at the presence of the Paramount Chief in the Leribe District, and was further inclined to frustrate the placing of Mitchel which he may consider detrimental to his own interests. Jonathan has, for his conduct in this matter, been rebuked both publicly and privately by the Resident Commissioner and myself.

In May I was directed with the Assistant Commissioner, Maseru, to meet the representatives of the Paramount Chief at Kueneng and proceed with the installation of Mitchel. On this occasion Jonathan was present and raised no objection to the placing of the young Chief. The adjustment of matters between Mitchel and Seshope, his uncle, was left in the hands of Peete Ramanella, who promised to deal liberally with his brother Seshope. Seshope has always strenuously opposed the placing of Mitchel as an infringement of what he considers to be his rights.

In May I attended with Mr. Boxwell a meeting in Matela's ward to discuss the quarrels between the sons of the late Chief Matela. Jonathan, whose right and duty it is to deal with Matela's people, left the settlement of various questions for the present in the hands of Letsika Matela, who was instructed to try and provide for his brothers.

It is satisfactory to report that, notwithstanding the existence of several matters of disagreement between the Chiefs, all these questions have so far been dealt with reasonably and peaceably. It is too much to hope that these questions have been finally dealt with, but the moderation and self-control so far exercised by the principal Chiefs encourages the belief that they will continue to bring these disputes to the proper courts for adjustment in a legitimate manner.

It has been reported that guns have on two occasions been taken in hand, but have not been used.

The Revenue for the 12 months ending 30th June 1895 is as follows:—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax	5,237 19 0
Licences	373 5 0
Fines	78 10 6
Ferry tolls	10 16 0
Fees	2 11 0
Miscellaneous	197 14 0
Total	£5,900 15 6

Arrear tax amounted to 178*l*. Hut tax was paid upon 12,802 huts.

The licences issued during the year are :—

General traders - - - - -	36
Hawkers - - - - - -	21
Do. free - - - - -	2

All crops have been abundant, the season having been a favourable one. The natives perhaps, have cultivated more wheat and Kaffir corn in proportion than mealie.

It is to be feared that the quantity of Kaffir corn raised, as it is not very marketable, will lead to excessive beer drinking and brawling.

The current prices of produce are :—

	£	s.	
Wheat - - - -	0	10	per bag.
Mealies - - - -	0	6	„
Kaffir corn - - -	0	4	„
Forage - - -	0	15	per 100 bundles.
Cattle - - - -	3	10	each.
Sheep - - - -	0	12	„

The following is a return of patrols performed :- -

No. of Patrols.	Number of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled.	Number of Arrests.	
227	450	7,374	Liquor Laws -	8
			Pass do. - -	104
			Other offences -	7

The Free State authorities have co-operated willingly with me in all border matters. There is a certain amount of liquor illicitly sold on the Free State Border, but the necessary action has been taken when I have brought any case to the notice of the officials of the State. An inconsiderable amount of brandy is no doubt smuggled into the District in spite of the vigilance of the Basutoland Police and Free State Police.

The cases adjudicated upon in my court (inclusive of the cases tried at Buthabuthe) during the year are:—

Civil cases - - - - -	8
Theft - - - - - -	32
Contravention of Pass law - - -	104
„ „ Liquor „ - - -	12
Assault - - - - - -	9
Culpable homicide - - -	3
Drunk and creating disturbance - - -	3
Murder - - - - - -	1
Contravention customs regulations - -	1
Escaping from lawful custody - - -	2
Illegal seizure - - - - -	1
Threatening and annoying - - -	1
Minor cases - - - - -	33

The following is a summary of reports of lost stock with results of action taken thereon :—

Description.	Reported lost or stolen.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced into Basutoland.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses -	40	17	23	17	23	
Cattle -	46	14	32	14	32	
Sheep -	20	20	—	19	—	1 killed by thief.
Goats -	18	18	—	—	18	120 miles patrolled in search of goats without success.

Passes have been issued to natives leaving the District as follows :—

Passes for men seeking work - - -	8,003
Passes for men travelling for other purposes -	13,065
Total - - - -	21,068

All natives leaving the country are provided with vaccination certificates.

The epidemic of small-pox referred to in my last report was, by a system of quarantine, confined to a few villages, and did not spread. Before the affected villages were released from quarantine the huts and clothing were burned, and proper steps to secure disinfection were taken under supervision of the medical officer.

A system of repairing the main post road by contract instead of by Government road-parties has been on trial for the past few months. It is premature to report as to the results of this experiment.

An agricultural show, assisted by a Government grant and supported by the European traders of the district, was held in May. With the exception of horses the number of exhibits was small. It is to be expected that, in the future, when the object of such a show is better understood by the Basuto, more interest may be exhibited in what cannot fail to be a most useful undertaking.

I enclose a report* on the schools in the District, which have this year been examined in the new standards of the Cape Education Department. I attach also the report on Buthabuthe sub-district.

H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

* Not printed.

BEREA.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1895.

With a few exceptions the district has been quiet since my annual report last year.

As previously stated, a dispute was outstanding in connection with the line between Peete and Lebese on 30th June 1894.

The District Chiefs being unable to arrange it, I was desired to enquire into the matter by the Resident Commissioner.

I found, however, that the evidence on both sides was so hopelessly biassed that there was no chance of arriving at the truth. Mr. Sloley, who had originally made the line, was then requested to point it out again, and the question was finally settled by beaconing off the line.

A similar question at Mathlatsa has been settled by Peete and Mamathe themselves, they being the disputing parties.

At the beginning of September, while the Maama-Lerothodi dispute was at its height this District was much disturbed, most of the men being called to Thaba Bosigo under arms by Masupha to watch events. On the collapse of Maama, Masupha sent them all to their homes, and everything settled down quietly.

Throughout the affair Masupha's principal sons were averse to his joining in it.

Early in December an old woman named Mautsopha, who lives in the Orange Free State near Ladybrand, and who is a prophetess of great repute among the Basuto, was called by Masupha to a meeting of important Chiefs at Mamathe's village in the district. While there she prophesied to the effect that before new year Basutoland would be attacked by the Free State farmers, and she advised all Basuto to be ready for war. This prophecy, with other less important ones, naturally upset the people very much, and the uneasiness took a long time to subside.

Mautsopha, however, has saved her reputation by "doctoring" the people to prevent the coming invasion.

In May, Masupha, who begins to find old age bearing heavily on him, introduced two of his grandsons to the Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief, and formally declared them his heirs in the following order:—

1st. Masuphanyane, son of Lepoqo.
2nd. Koadi, son of Mosuioa.
3rd. Marthinus—Masupha's eldest surviving son.

Masuphanyane and Koadi are boys of 13 and 14 years old.

Peete has reported to me lately that Jonathan Molapo is claiming a large wedge of country from him, near the source of the Phutiatsana River. This appears to be one of those cases which arise from the difficulty of deciding which of two small streams near the source of a river is the actual river and which is the tributary

The strength of the police at this station is at present, 1 European constable, 2 Native corporals, 1 Native lance corporal, 23 Native privates; all mounted, equipped, and efficient.

The Sub-Inspector of Police in charge of this Detachment has been temporarily removed to another district for duty.

There has been a good deal of stealing in Berea during the past year, the thieves being chiefly a gang living under the protection of the petty Chief Moiketsi. He, however, has not been legally proved to be an accomplice.

The following are the patrols by this detachment during the past year:—

Number of patrols - - - -	90
Number of men - - - -	213
Number of miles - - - -	4,573

Arrests were as under:—

Contravening Liquor Regulations - -	5
Contravening Pass Regulations - -	4
Other offences - - - -	8
	17

Very little stock has been reported as lost from the Free State or elsewhere. The saddle referred to last year has been recovered and the thief punished.

A return follows showing results in recovery of stock reported here:—

Stock.	Reported.	Not traced.	Traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered	Remarks.
Horses -	10	6	4	2	2	These horses were apparently sent to Johannesburg directly they arrived in Basutoland; thief punished.
Cattle	23	13	10	9	1	Thief punished. This beast was killed before his arrest.

The following cases were heard in the Assistant Commissioner's court during the year:—

Theft - - - - - -	12
Contravening Liquor Laws - - -	5
Contravening Pass Laws - - -	6
Assault - - - - -	1
Other offences - - - - -	8
	32
Civil cases - - - - -	2

The health of the District has been very good. There were one or two cases of small-pox, but the natives themselves isolated them so promptly that the disease did not spread. Government employes (other than medical officers) vaccinated 2,674 natives at this office during the year.

BASUTOLAND. 1894–95.

Hut tax has been disappointing. Leshuburu and Peete have paid well and are some 78*l.* in excess of last year, while the whole tax of the District has risen 7*l.*, but, on the other hand, Masupha and his sons have made no efforts to get in their tax, and consequently are about 70*l.* behind last year. Masupha has always been known for his dilatoriness in hut-tax matters, but it was hoped that a letter addressed to him by the High Commissioner and his own promises at the National Pitso would effect a change for the better this year.

Whether from old age or carelessness, however, he has made even less effort than usual this year to get in the tax, and the result is the deficit mentioned above.

The following is the revenue for the district for the past year :—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax - - - - - - -	2,756	0	0
Licences - - - - - - -	979	10	6
Fees of court or office - - - - -	1	2	6
Special receipts - - - - - -	80	7	3
Total - - - -	3,117	0	3

Arrear hut tax collected amounted to 204*l.* 10*s.*

Hut tax was paid on 5,238 huts.

An agricultural show was held at Teyateyaneng on the 8th June with a view of showing the natives that there was great room for improvement in their stock and produce. The prizes were subscribed by the white residents of the District, and Government gave a grant-in-aid. The prizes were open to natives of Basutoland only, and there were large entries for nearly every class of exhibit.

The crops are good this year, and the Kaffir corn especially so, indeed it is to be feared that the beer drinking, which has already commenced throughout the country, will be the cause of much crime and quarrelling.

The approximate prices of grain per muid are :—

Wheat, 8*s.* to 9*s.*
Mealies, 5*s.* to 6*s.*
Kaffir corn, 6*s.* to 7*s.*

Stock of all kinds is scarce.

The following are the passes issued at this office during the year :—

Passes for labour - - -	4,417
Passes for other purposes - - -	4,103
Total - - -	8,520

During the past year the main post road has been in charge of a contractor and inspected by Government. The experiment may be said to have succeeded fairly, but the season has been such a phenomenally wet one that it would be unfair to judge too harshly. Dry weather has now set in and the roads have all been made fit for the traffic they are called on to carry.

During the year there have been issued at this office :—

9 paid hawkers' licences
2 free hawkers' licences.

There are 24 trading stations in the District.

During the year I have received every help from the Free State border officials.

L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

MASERU.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1895.

In August last a disturbance arose between the Paramount Chief and his younger brother Maama, which was fraught with danger and very nearly culminated in disaster. The Paramount Chief had sent messages to execute a judgment which he had passed on certain malefactors, and the messengers were driven off by Maama's people, and in the scuffle one of them was killed. The Paramount Chief, naturally much incensed at the death of his messenger and at the contempt of his authority, called certain of his brothers, and was proceeding with a large following to crush Maama once for all, and had he been allowed to proceed there was, I think, no doubt but that he would have accomplished his object, but he would also have created a disturbance of such magnitude as might very well have led to general disaster. He was, however, stopped by the Resident Commissioner, who held a Pitso at Mofokas, and imposed a heavy cattle fine upon Maama and his people, and ordered Lerothodi to step in and occupy a tract of country which was still in dispute between him and Maama.

This disturbance may be said to have constituted a crisis in the affairs of the District. Maama lost greatly in prestige and territory, and many of his people, tired of the repeated cattle fines and call to arms to which he has from time to time subjected them, gladly left him to join Lerothodi. Since then the district has been in a state of profound peace. Disputes, of course, arise from time to time, but they are invariably brought to the courts and adjusted.

Commercial.

Trade has been bad this year. There is, however, plenty of food. The prices paid for produce are still very low.

Public Works.

The roads are now in good repair.

Police.

The police force attached to my office consists nominally of:—

Sub-inspectors - - - - -	2
European constables - - - -	2
Native sergeants - - - - -	1
Native corporals - - - - -	3
Native privates - - - - -	49

Number of Patrols.	Number of Men employed.	Number of Miles patrolled.	Arrests. (*a.*) Contravening Liquor Regulations. (*b.*) Contravening Pass Regulations. (*c.*) Other Offences
78	194	3,074	*a.* 4 *b.* 5 *c.* 3

The following table shows result of action taken in the matter of tracing lost stock. In every case where stock has been traced to Basutoland it has been recovered and in some instances before report.

Description.	No. reported.	Traced to Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses - -	23	9	14	9	14	2 recovered in Orange Free State.
Cattle - -	31	10	21	10	21	3 recovered in Orange Free State.

Serious crime continues to be rare. The following cases were tried in my court:—

Contravening Liquor Regulations -	4
Contravening Pass Regulations - -	5
Contravening Customs Regulations -	1
Contravening Reserve Regulations -	1
Theft - - - - -	11
Fraud - - - - -	1
Concealment of birth - - -	1
Homicide - - - -	1
Assault - - - - -	2
Resisting police - - - -	1

There were four civil actions, two of them actions for divorce.

Revenue.

The following statement shows the amount of revenue collected by me. The hut tax shows an increase of some 80*l.* on last year.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax - - - - - - -	3,756 0 0
Licences - - - - - - -	234 0 0
Fines - - - - - - -	34 5 6
Ferry tolls - - - - - - -	271 8 6
Fees of court - - - - - -	8 19 3
Miscellaneous - - - - - -	181 10 5
Total - - - - - -	£4,486 3 8

294*l.* of arrear hut tax was collected. Tax was paid on 6,924 huts.

Passes.

Passes were issued to 6,217 persons, 3,318 of these were going in search of work.

Licences.

There are 20 licensed trading stations in the district. 34 paid hawkers' licences were taken out and 22 free hawkers' licences.

Intercourse with the Orange Free State Officials continues to be of a friendly nature.

J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

Assistant Commissioner's Office,
Maseru, June 30, 1895.

MAFETENG.

Annual Report for Year ended 30th June 1895.

June 30, 1895.

1. I would refer to the principal incidents of political importance which affected this District during the past year.

2. Chief Letsie, eldest son of the Paramount Chief, had been placed at his father's old village as mentioned in my report

1892-93, and soon afterwards he began to ignore his proper councillors and abuse his position.

For two years I endeavoured to exercise a good influence over him by various methods, but ultimately his behaviour became so unbearable towards Government officers and the general public that I found it necessary to report his conduct to the Acting Resident Commissioner. On receipt of my report the Acting Resident Commissioner suspended Chief Letsie, from his position as Native Officer of Police, pending inquiry into the case. Subsequently the Acting Resident Commissioner held an inquiry at Mafeteng, and the Paramount Chief, Letsie, and other Chiefs and councillors were present. Chief Letsie acknowledged the justice of the charges I had brought against him, comparing himself to the Prodigal Son, which parable he recited, then apologising to the Government Officers, Chiefs and people present, he promised to amend his conduct.

The Acting Resident Commissioner severely reprimanded Letsie, and fined him three months' pay for general misconduct, and also ordered him to pay a cattle fine for treating a native prisoner with undue severity. I have not since had special occasion to complain of Letsie, though, I regret to say, his general character is unsatisfactory.

3. The gradual encroachment by natives on the land regarded as commonage for this station made it necessary for me to bring the matter to the notice of the Government. Year after year new ground was ploughed and pasturage destroyed by natives living at this Magistracy and outside, there being no recognised limit to the reserve. Many difficulties presented themselves in dealing with this matter, and it was not until July 1894 that the Acting Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief came to view the ground and definitely fix the Government reserve, securing within its limits the lands and pasturage appertaining to the village of Mafeteng. Beacons are erected and there is now no difficulty in protecting the village commonage.

4. Last year the Paramount Chief gave the people of Kolo Ward, formerly directly under Matsieng, into the caretaking of Chief Bereng Letsie, an arrangement which has caused some local dissatisfaction.

5. A wire fence has been erected during the last few years as a western boundary between Basutoland and the Orange Free State, the cost being shared by Basutoland Government and the Free State farmers immediately on that part of the border. The proprietor of the farm Flodden had delayed in putting up his fence, and as the veldt was open between the beacons Basuto cattle and herds occasionally trespassed on to his farm. No complaint was ever brought to this office, the farmer always obtaining trespass fees from the Basuto before releasing their cattle. However, in February 1895, the son of the proprietor saw three Basuto children, herd boys, gathering wild berries on his ground, and he fetched a gun from the farmhouse, and fired a shot with ball cartridge in their direction. The boys

fled and reported the matter to their parents, and the circumstance caused a good deal of indignation and unrest at the time. When the case came to my knowledge I communicated with the Landdrost of Wepener, and subsequently met that gentleman and some local Basuto Chiefs on the border near the farm Flodden, and we reviewed the ground. The Landdrost directed the farmer, Mr. Strohmenger, to build his section of the fence without delay, and he promised to do so. We afterwards rode along the completed fence as far as it extends along Mafeteng District, and mutually agreed concerning certain repairs and improvements as a safeguard against smuggling from the Orange Free State.

6. Brandy smuggling from the Orange Free State continues to be kept down by the action of the officials of the Orange Free State, and constant patrolling of Basutoland police.

Several Boers who sell brandy on their farms to Basutoland natives have been convicted in the Landdrosts' Court, Wepener, but as these people make handsome profits they still carry on the trade by stealth, and will probably continue to do so as long as they can find customers to purchase the adulterated and poisonous spirits they retail.

7. I attach a return of patrols performed by the detachment of police at this station. The estimated distance travelled is less than that of last year, owing to the men having been employed on frequent forelay duty—

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled by collective Patrols.	Arrests. (*a.*) Contravening Liquor Regulations. (*b.*) Do. Pass do. (*c.*) Other Offences.
91	449	4,575	*a.* 29 *b.* 10 *c.* 10

6. During the year the district Chiefs have rendered all necessary aid to the police in tracing stray and stolen property, and in arresting persons accused of crimes. I append a return of lost and stolen stock:—

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced into Basutoland.	Recovered.	Not Recovered.	Remarks.
Horses - -	7	5	2	5	2	—
Cattle - -	3	2	1	2	1	—
Sheep - -	14	—	14	—	14	—

Stock stolen from the Orange Free State, and traced into this District was again, as last year, all recovered and returned to the owners, and the thieves punished. None was traced from the Cape Colony.

9. The civil and criminal cases adjudicated upon in Assistant Commissioner's Court were :—

Civil suits - - - - -	5
Homicide - - - - - -	1
Theft - - - - - -	10
Fraud - - - - - -	2
Resisting and assaulting police - -	2
Contravening Liquor Regulations - -	30
„ Pass „ - -	10
„ Customs „ - -	1
Cases dismissed - - - -	3

10. The Mafeteng detachment of police continues to perform excellent services and the men are daily employed on various duties throughout the District. The men are efficient, well mounted and equipped, and the present strength is :—

1 sub-inspector.
2 European constables.
1 native constable.
1 „ officer.
1 „ sergeant.
1 „ corporal.
31 „ privates.

11. Encouraged by the success of an agricultural show in 1894 another was held in Mafeteng last May. Government gave a grant towards the funds at the disposal of the committee, so a substantial sum of money was awarded for prizes in the different classes of exhibits. The show was well supported by the public and some excellent samples of Basutoland produce and stock were shown, together with articles of native manufacture.

The rains were seasonable and an abundant harvest has been reaped, and the food supply for the ensuing year is assured.

The rainfall for the 12 months ended 30th June 1895 at Mafeteng was 35·3 inches.

The following were the ruling prices for produce and stock :—

Wheat, 8*s.* 6*d.* per bag of 200 lbs.
Mealies, 5*s.* per bag of 200 lbs.
Oats, 6*s.* per bag of 150 lbs.
Barley, 5*s.* per bag of 150lbs.
Kaffir corn, 10*s.* per bag of 200 lbs.
Oat hay, 15*s.* per bag 100 bundles.
Wool, 3¼*d.* per lb.
Mohair, 9*d.* per lb.
Basuto tobacco, 6*d.* per lb.
Hides, 3*d.* per lb.
Horned cattle (slaughter) 3*l.* to 6*l.*
Sheep, 8*s.*
Goats, 5*s.*
Basuto ponies, 2*l.* to 10*l.*

There was an improvement in the commerce of the District last year.

I attach a return of the number of licences granted:—

General traders - - - - - - -	26
Hawkers' licences (paid) - - - - -	12
Hawkers' licences (free) - - - - -	32

12. The Medical Officer has furnished a report on the health of the District. A mild form of small-pox has been rife during the past year, and at my request the Chiefs gave ready assistance in enforcing quarantine regulations under the direction of the medical officer.

Vaccination was freely carried out in the District, and passes to leave the territory were only granted to natives who had provided themselves with vaccination certificates.

13. The waggon roads have been maintained in fair order, and Government buildings requiring repair have received attention.

The village fountain being inadequate to the requirements of the community, and having become contaminated from various causes, a scheme for supplying the village with pure water from an adjacent spring was laid before Government, and the acting Resident Commissioner, after due consideration, approved of the suggestion and authorised a water-service for Mafeteng. The work was, successfully carried out by a qualified engineer. The water has been conveyed from the base of Likodi mountain into the village of Mafeteng by means of iron piping 2¼ miles in length.

There are three taps in convenient positions for public use, leadings have been carried to all Government quarters and also to most European dwellings at the owners' private cost. This pure water supply is necessary for health purposes, and its advantages are already felt and more beneficial results are anticipated, facilitating, as it will, the irrigation of gardens and production of vegetables.

14. I have inspected and furnished a separate report on twenty-six (26) Government-aided schools, and I am pleased to state that educational work in the District is making fair progress.

16. Natives have gone freely into adjacent territories in search of work and for other purposes. The number of persons who obtained passes at this office were:—

Seeking employment - - - -	4,345
Other purposes - - - - -	9,226

16. Hut tax was exceptionally well paid, and is 74*l.* in excess of the amount gathered during the previous year. This is due to a slight increase of persons liable, and to a careful supervision and check of hut tax receipts from house to house.

Miscellaneous receipts were considerably increased owing to hospital fees being paid under this head.

The revenue collected amounts to:—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax - - - - - - - -	3,670 10 0
Licences - - - - - - - -	212 0 0
Fines - - - - - - - -	75 0 0
Fees of court or office - - - - - -	5 12 6
Miscellaneous - - - - - - -	207 9 6
Total - - - - - - - -	£4,170 12 0

No. of huts on which tax was paid - - - 7,163

Arrear hut tax collected - - - £163

T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner,
Mafeteng.

MOHALE'S HOEK.

Annual Report for the Year ended June 30, 1895.

General.

Nothing of any material importance has occurred during the past twelve months. The political aspect is unchanged. In August last I was informed by Malebanye, the head of the Bamohale, that he had been summoned by the Paramount Chief to bring armed assistance against Maama.

Malebanye went as far as Mafeteng. From there he returned by permission of the Paramount Chief.

In October, Chabedi, a petty Chief of the Bataung, died and was succeeded by his son Thurlo.

In December small-pox broke out in this district. Immediate steps were taken for a general vaccination and for quarantine. I went personally into the Maloti and ordered isolation of all villages infected with the disease.

Five villages were found by me to be infected. The medical officer and experienced police visited the district for vaccination purposes, and a thorough system of vaccination was kept up at the dispensary. No passes were issued to persons who failed to produce a vaccination certificate.

In March the petty Chief Makuethlane died and was succeeded by his eldest son Pitso.

In May Lesala and eight others were arrested for illicit introduction into Basutoland of guns, pistols, and ammunition. The guns were purchased by Lesala in the Free State, and were paid

for in Basutoland, with cattle stolen by him from Ntabanyane Makhube.

The case was heard before a combined court at this station on May 14; the prisoners were convicted and are now undergoing sentence. The Dutchmen who sold the guns have been committed for trial in the Free State.

Relations between the district and neighbouring States are most satisfactory.

Border fencing is being carried on. The fence is a great assistance in the checking of theft and other border troubles.

Liquor smuggling, though not so frequent as formerly, is still a source of trouble, more so in the northern than in the southern portion of the District.

The following is a return of lost and stolen stock :—

Description.	No. reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced into Basutoland.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses -	8	1	7	1	7	
Cattle -	11	—	11	—	10	1 recovered in Free State.
Sheep -	108	—	108	—	108	

The following is a return of patrols :—

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Approximate Distance travelled.	No. of Arrests.
62	129	3,058	Liquor Regulations - - —
			Pass laws - - - 2
			Other offences - - 1

The population is decidedly on the increase, and at present there appears to be no sufficient outlet for the surplus. This fact, while presenting no immediate cause for concern, will, I fear, be a source of trouble in the near future.

The following is a return of all passes issued during the year :—

For Labour.	For other Purposes.	Total Number issued.
3,074	1,806	4,880

This year's harvest has been, generally, quite up to the average, cereals of all description grown in Basutoland being plentiful. The mealie crop has been an exceptionally abundant one.

All schools in the District have been inspected. I cannot say that I have noticed much progress.

An average amount of trade has been done. Owing, however, to the heavy import duty on breadstuffs and stock in the Transvaal, prices of all Basutoland exports are much lower than they otherwise would be.

The following is a return of licences issued:—

General traders	15
Hawkers' licences (free)	8
Dam licences	2

The criminal cases heard in the court of this District during the year are as follows:—

Theft	4
Forgery	1
Assault with intent	3
Contravening Pass Laws	1
Contravening regulations regarding firearms	1
Police offences	2

The number of cases is somewhat in excess of last year's return; but they are for the most part of a trifling nature.

There have been only three civil cases heard during the year.

The Medical Officer's report is forwarded separately.

The following is a return of all Revenue received:—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount. £	s.	d.
Hut tax	3,242	10	0
Licences	147	9	0
Ferry tolls	64	4	3
Fees	5	0	0
Miscellaneous receipts	159	7	0
Total	3,618	10	3

Hut tax has been paid on 6,335 huts, and arrear tax amounted to 98*l.*

J. W. BOWKER,
Assistant Commissioner.

QUTHING.

Annual Report for the Year ending June 30, 1895.

General.

1. Although disputes have been frequent, there has been no disturbance of the peace in this District during the year.

The friction between the sons of Letsie and other inhabitants of the country still goes on, and unless some other location can be found for the latter, it is difficult to see where it will stop. The decisions given at the public meeting held here in June 1894 by the Acting Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief have to a large extent been evaded by the Chief Nkwebe Letsie. These evasions have been reported on, from time to time, in letters to head-quarters.

The above-named Chief, although apparently well disposed towards Government, has on several occasions shown a spirit of opposition to control, which is to be regretted in view of the example thereby set to the minor Chiefs.

2. Steps have been taken in the course of the year to ascertain how the police duties were performed, and the result was not creditable to certain persons then in the force.

Liquor smuggling had apparently been connived at to some extent, and, as a result of the enquiry, convictions were obtained against two illicit canteens in the neighbouring district of Herschel, Cape Colony.

3. It is currently reported by responsible persons, such as missionaries and traders, that several natives have been tortured and otherwise punished for alleged witchcraft by the Chiefs in the District during the period under review. No complaints of such treatment have been brought to officials by the sufferers, probably owing to their dread of the Chief's vengeance.

Agriculture.

The wheat crop was a light one in comparison with the acreage sown, but the Kaffir corn and maize crops are better than the average. Generally speaking, the live stock in the country is healthy, but in certain parts shows deterioration owing to over-stocking and restricted pasturage.

Horses, especially, are not so good as formerly, partly from the above causes and partly from careless breeding. One of the Arab stallions imported by the Government is now stationed in Quthing, and it is hoped that in time goods results will be shown. Tree-planting is increasing among the people, although their ideas on this subject are chiefly confined to poplars (for building poles) and a few sorts of fruit trees. The country is now too crowded to allow of the population shifting from place to place as formerly, and one result of this should be to lead them to plant

trees freely and to build more permanent dwellings than they have hitherto done.

Something has been done towards the destruction of burrweed both by the Government and the people, and if this is persevered in for some years the weed may be extirpated. There is still far too much in the country.

Relations with Bordering States.

Friendly relations continue with the bordering Districts of the Cape Colony and East Griqualand, and mutual facilities are afforded for the tracing of criminals.

Public Works.

Waterworks for supply of water to the police camp and various public officers are about to be constructed.

Medical officers' quarters are nearly completed, and other building work is in progress.

The main roads on the whole do not compare unfavourably with those in adjacent Districts, but the branch road to Ongeluks Nek is now impassable for vehicles.

Medical.

Medical officer's report is forwarded separately.*

Revenue.

The following is a return of revenue collected —

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax	2,186	12	6
Licences	156	0	0
Fines	62	6	6
Ferry tolls	175	13	0
Fees of court or office	2	7	6
Miscellaneous	77	14	0
Total	2.660	13	6

The total number of huts on which tax was paid this year is 4,210; arrear hut tax amounting to 98*l.* was collected.

Licences.

Number of licences issued :—

General traders	15
Hawkers' paid	6
Hawkers' free	3

* Not printed.

Lost Stock Returns.

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered	Remarks.
Horses - -	2	1	1	1	1	8 cattle have been reported by Colonial officials as having been recovered in the Colony.
Cattle - -	15	7	8	7	8	
Sheep - -	58	—	58	—	58	

Civil and Criminal Cases.

Civil and criminal cases tried during the year are as follows:—

Civil cases - - - - - -	4
Assault - - - - -	4
Concealment of birth - - - - -	1
Contempt of court - - - - -	1
Theft - - - - - -	7
Rape - - - - - -	2
Contravening Customs Regulations - -	1
Contravening Trading Regulations - -	8
Contravening Pass Regulations - - -	30
Contravening sec. 31, Pound Ordinance - -	3
Professing to a knowledge of witchcraft - -	2
Resisting police - - - - -	6
Escape from custody - - - - -	1
Breach of prison discipline - - -	1
Breach of the peace - - - -	2

Current prices of produce and stock:—

Mealies, 4*s.* to 6*s.* per muid.
Wheat, 10*s.* per muid.
Kaffir corn, 8*s.* to 10*s.* per muid.
Horses, 3*l.* to 8*l.* each.
Cattle, 3*l.* to 5*l.* each.
Sheep, 10*s.* to 15*s.* each.
Goats, 6*s.* to 8*s.* each.
Wool, 3*d.* per lb.
Mohair, 6*d.* per lb.

Passes.

The following is a return of passes issued during the year:—

Seeking work - - - - -	1.679
Other purposes - - - -	4,139

Patrols.

The following is a return of patrols:—

Number of patrols - - - -	102
Number of men engaged - - -	349
Number of miles patrolled - - -	3,839

Arrests as under :—

Contravening Liquor Regulations - - -	7
Contravening Pass Regulations - - - -	22
Other offences - - - - - -	10

S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

QACHA'S NEK.

Annual Report for the Year ending **30th June** 1895.

General.

The boundary dispute between the Chiefs Mpiti and Sekake, mentioned by me in my last Annual Report, was settled on the 31st July last by Setha Matete, who was sent by the Paramount Chief to enquire into the matter, and the boundary was then clearly defined, so I do not anticipate any further trouble between these Chiefs on that subject.

I am pleased to report that no disputes as to rights of land, &c. have occurred among Chiefs in the District during the past year, and all the Chiefs appear to bear friendly relations to one another.

I have always received ready assistance from all Chiefs and Headmen in all matters on which I have had occasion to requisition their services.

My relations with the Government Officers of the neighbouring Districts of the Cape Colony continue to be of a friendly nature, and I have received every assistance in tracing of criminals and the recovery of lost or stolen stock.

Efforts have been made, with the assistance of the Paramount Chief, to check the influx of foreign natives into the District, and several of the Chiefs and Headmen have been punished for allowing such persons to settle in their wards without first obtaining the permission of Government.

The introduction of the Glen Grey Act among the natives of East Griqualand, of which I hear there is a possibility, may have the effect of the Basutoland Government receiving many applications from Natives of that territory for permission to remove into Basutoland.

Commercial

No new trading stations have been opened during the past year. The existing stations appear to be doing a lucrative trade. The

average prices paid by traders for produce and live stock during the year are as follows:—

Wheat, 5*s.* to 8*s.* per bag.
Mealies, 3*s.* to 10*s.* per bag.
Kaffir corn, 6*s.* to 10*s.* per bag.
Wool, 2½*d.* to 3*d.* per lb.
Mohair, 4*d.* to 6*d.* per lb.
Hides, 2*d.* per lb.
Horses, 60*s.* to 7*l.*
Cattle, 20*s.* to 100*s.*
Sheep, 8*s.* to 10*s.*
Goats, 5*s.* to 6*s.*

Public Works.

The road from Matatiele to this station is now in fair repair, the old portion of it, mentioned in my last Annual Report as requiring to be repaired, has been put in order by the Resident Magistrate of Matatiele, who employed convict labour.

Application has been made, and permission granted by the Government to Mr. James Cole, to construct a road to his trading station at Mpiti's.

Police.

The police have been doing satisfactory work, and discipline has been well maintained among the members of the detachment here. They have been hard worked in endeavouring to keep patrols out along the border, which is very extensive, and the detachment would require to be considerably strengthened to keep a continual watch on the numerous paths which enter the district.

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled.	Arrests.
51	79	5,675	For contravention of Liquor Laws - - - 1 Do. Pass Laws - - 8 Other offences - - 5

Crime.

The following criminal cases have been tried during the year ended 30th June 1895:—

Culpable homicide - - - -	2
Theft - - - - - -	1
Contravening Liquor Laws - - -	1
,, Pass Laws - - - -	9
Breach of prison discipline - - -	4
Attempting to administer poison with intent	1
Assault - - - - - -	1

BASUTOLAND. 1894–95.

On account of the stringent measures lately introduced by the Cape Government to check the sale of liquor to natives, very little, if any, liquor smuggling is carried on along the border of this district.

Return of lost and stolen stock :—

Description.	No. reported lost.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Cattle -	5	5	—	5	—	
Horses -	12	1	11	—	11	Traced to Mafeteng District. 1 horse found dead on owner's farm.
Sheep -	63	—	63	—	63	32 sheep recovered by owner on adjoining farms.
Goats -	2	—	2	—	2	2 goats recovered by owner on adjoining farm.

Revenue.

The amount of revenue collected compares favourably with last year's collection. The amount of arrear hut tax collected this year is 103*l.* less than that collected last year, so that this shows an increase of current tax collected amounting to 101*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, which I attribute to the increase of population by immigration from other districts of Basutoland, and from the Cape Colony and Nata .

The following is a return of revenue collected during the year ended 30th June 1895 :—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax - - - - - - -	1,055	18	0
Licences - - - - - - -	22	0	0
Fines - - - - - - -	4	10	0
Fees - - - - - - -	0	2	6
Miscellaneous receipts - - - - -	15	5	6
Total - - - - - -	1,097	16	0

Amount of arrear hut tax collected, 73*l.* 10*s.* Number of huts on which tax has been paid 2,005. Number of licences issued is as follows :—

General traders' - - - - -	2
Paid hawkers' - - - - -	2

The following is a return of passes issued during the year ended 30th June 1895, and shows an increase over last year of 794 :—

Number of persons to whom passes were issued for work	-	-	548
Do.	Do.	for other purposes -	2,257
			2,805

Medical.

No case of small-pox or other epidemic disease has occurred in the District during the past year, and I have had no occasion to call on the services of a medical man.

Six hundred and eleven persons have been vaccinated and provided with certificates.

JNO. T. GRIFFITH,
Officer in Charge.

BUTHA BUTHE.

Annual Report for the Year ended June 30, 1895.

Though no serious fighting has taken place in this ward during the past year, yet there has been considerable friction between the Chiefs and headmen and much anxiety caused thereby.

In July 1894 Joel and his brother Hlasoa had a dispute as to the latter's rights, and at one time it was feared that this would lead to serious trouble. Nothing much came of it, however, but I do not consider this matter to be by any means finally settled.

In October the differences between the sons of Matela began, and I regret to have to report that up to now matters are still unsettled. The trouble was chiefly with Mohape, Likopa, and Hlakametsa. Various small fights took place, and at last on the 8th May, Chief Jonathan came up to settle matters, accompanied by the Assistant Commissioner of the District, and messengers from the Paramount Chief, to watch proceedings and advise. On the 9th and 10th a Pitsoe was held near Lepera's village and a judgment was given by Chief Jonathan. It remains to be seen how far this judgment will bring peace and quietness.

I am glad to be able to report that the amount of hut tax paid since 1st July 1894 is greater than that of any preceding year.

The total revenue is also greater. I subjoin a return of revenue under heads :—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax - - - - - - -	1,533 0 0
Licences - - - - - - -	127 0 0
Fines - - - - - - -	4 17 6
Fees - - - - - - -	0 16 0
Miscellaneous - - - - - -	53 19 6
Total - - - - - -	1,719 13 0

The number of general traders' licences is the same as for last year. There has been a slight increase in the number of hawkers' licences taken out. I subjoin a return :—

General traders' licences - - - -	11
Paid hawkers' licences - - - -	15
Free hawkers' licences - - - -	2

I regret to have to report that two cases of manslaughter have occurred in this ward during the year. In one case the culprit has been tried and punished; in the other two men have been arrested on suspicion.

I subjoin a return of criminal and civil cases heard in this court during the year :—

Manslaughter - - - - -	1
Stock theft - - - - -	5
Liquor running - - - - -	1
Minor cases - - - - -	31
Total - - - - -	38
Civil cases - - - - -	8

All the lost or stolen stock reported to this office during the year, and which were traced to Basutoland have been recovered. It is very hard to say whether those not so traced have been recovered or not, as none of the border farmers ever report when they find their lost stock. In the few cases in which I could make enquiry, the stock had not been found. The following is a return :—

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not Recovered.	Remarks.
Horses - -	13	4	9	4	9	—
Cattle - -	18	8	10	8	10	—

Mr. P. de la Harpe also reported that he constantly lost goats in small numbers, but none were actually traced to Basutoland.

I subjoin a return of number of passes issued during the year :—

For the purpose of working - - -	2,823
For other purposes - - - -	5,669

The following are approximately the current prices for Basutoland produce at present in this ward :—

Wheat, 10*s.* per muid.
Mealies, 5*s.* „
Kaffir corn, 6*s.* per muid.
Oats, 6*s.* per muid.
Wool, ½*d.* to 4*d.* per lb.
Mohair, 6*d.* per lb.
Forage, 10*s.* to 12*s.* per 100 bundles.
Cattle, 2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.* each.

The following is a return of patrols by police during the year :—

Number of patrols - - - -	65
Number of men engaged - - -	120
Number of miles patrolled - - -	3,074

Number of arrests as under :—

Contravening Liquor Regulations - -	1
Contravening Pass Regulations - -	23
Other offences - - - - -	6

My relations with the Free State authorities continue friendly, and I receive every assistance from them.

W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector, Basutoland Mounted Police.

Annual Report, Principal Medical Officer, Basutoland, for the Year ending June 30, 1895.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The public health has been affected by several serious epidemics during the last year.

Small-pox.

Early in December small-pox appeared simultaneously in the Mafeteng and Mohales Hoek Districts.

In the former 59 cases were reported in four villages, but the stringent quarantine which was enforced prevented any further spread, and by the end of January the outbreak had been stamped out. A fresh outbreak (26 cases in one village), which occurred in March, was confined to the village in which the first case appeared.

BASUTOLAND. 1894-95.

A much more serious epidemic was rife during this period in the Mohale's Hoek Ward, and owing to the fact that most of the infected centres were in the mountainous part of the district and at considerable distances from the camp quarantine was with difficulty enforced, the more especially as, the disease being singularly non-fatal, the element of fear, which in previous epidemics has caused the quarantine to be strictly kept, was absent in this instance. Chicken-pox being epidemic at the same time, there was a natural tendency in the native mind to refuse to recognise in the mild cases of small-pox the more serious of the two diseases. 600 people are computed to have suffered from the disease, and 16 deaths were reported. By the end of March the epidemic had died out.

The rest of Basutoland was practically free from the disease during the year, if one excepts a sporadic case which occurred in the Maseru District. As I anticipated in my last year's report, the disease was effectually stamped out in the Leribe District.

Vaccination.

In connection with the question of small-pox it should be mentioned that vaccination has been vigorously prosecuted throughout the country during the past year. Missionaries and others were provided with lymph, and thanks are due to them for their aid rendered to this section of preventive medicine.

I append a table showing the number of people vaccinated in the various Districts of which records are available. Judging from the amount of lymph distributed to missionaries and others, at least 5,000 should be added to the grand total of cases :—

Station.	Number.
Qachas Nek	442
Quthing	1,782
Mohale's Hoek	7,573
Mafeteng	8,864
Maseru	5,456
Teyateyaneng	2,248
Leribe	3,980
Butha Buthe	1,889
Total	32,234

It is worthy of record that this large number of vaccinations has been accomplished without entailing any extra charge on the revenue, the amount collected for vaccination certificates being more than sufficient to cover the cost of the lymph.

Measles.

Measles was prevalent at Mohale's Hoek in November and December, but no deaths were recorded.

Typhoid Fever.

Typhoid, which has been epidemic at Mohale's Hoek for some years, appeared in an epidemic form there in April, and two deaths were reported. It would appear that the want of proper sanitation is responsible for the presence of the disease. It is remarkable that throughout the country the outside villages, which are always built on very healthy sites, are free of the disease, while the converse obtains at the camps, for which, in many cases, very unsuitable positions have been chosen.

Leprosy.

A full report on the leprosy question has been presented embodying the results of the investigations carried out by the medical staff during the past year. Fresh cases coming under observation are duly recorded.

Syphilis.

The per-centage of syphilitic to the total number of cases treated shows no diminution, but this does not indicate any spread of the disease, but is accounted for by the fact that people suffering from this complaint are more willing than others to pay the small charge now made for medicine. A diminution in the number of severe tertiary manifestations has been noticed during the last year, and this alone testifies to the influence exercised by the medical work of the last five years in alleviating a condition which at one time threatened to become almost a national calamity.

Diphtheria.

A severe epidemic of diphtheria occurred in Maseru with sporadic cases in the District during the months of January, February, and March. There were 22 cases (most of whom were Europeans) and one death. The epidemic was undoubtedly due to the insanitary condition of the village and its surroundings, which conditions were emphasised by the unhealthy position and condition of most of the houses in which the disease occurred. It is satisfactory to be able to report that the first mentioned of these causes has been remedied.

The new remedy, antitoxin, was tried in two cases, but the limited amount at the disposal of the medical officer precluded any trustworthy conclusion to be drawn as to its value.

Thanks are due to the director of the Bacteriological Institute at Grahamstown for undertaking the examination of specimens of exudation.

HEALTH OF THE POLICE FORCE.

Police.

This calls for no comment. It has been generally good.

SANITARY AFFAIRS.

Sanitation.

Improved sanitation is urgently needed at most stations, and I would strongly urge the desirability of making the dry-earth system compulsory with the European residents at all stations.

Water Supply.

Dr. Leicester reports very favourably of the new water supply at Mafeteng. The present supply at other stations, more especially at Maseru, falls lamentably short of the needs of, and is a standing source of danger to, the community.

HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY WORK.

Out-patient Work.

As was anticipated, there has been a marked falling off in a section of the attendances during the last year, consequent on the nominal charge now made for medicine. The decrease is most marked in those trivial cases which formerly thronged the dispensaries. There is a distinct upward tendency in the numbers during the last half of the year, and the opinion of the medical staff is unanimous as to the benefit accruing from the system. Owing to the very large number of vaccinations the actual attendances are not much below the average of previous years.

I append a table showing the attendances at the different stations:—

	New Cases.	Subsequent Attendances.	Total.
Moyeni - - -	50	10	60
Mohales Hoek - - -	1,584	189	1,773
Mafeteng - -	1,549	598	2,147
Maseru - - -	2,154	499	2,653
Leribe - - -	1,578	496	2,074
Grand totals - -	6,915	1,792	8,707

Hospital Work.

Hospital work has been well maintained, but the frequent absence of the medical officers from their stations on duty connected with the leprosy investigation, the small-pox epidemics, and vaccination has interfered with this branch of the work at times. Excellent work has, however, been done in spite of these hindrances, and the relief afforded by the large number of surgical operations performed has been much appreciated. This is a matter for considerable congratulation, seeing that this arduous work is carried out solely by the medical officers without the aid of any nursing staff or skilled assistance whatever, and in hospitals where the furnishing and appliances still leave much to be desired.

I append a tabular statement of the in-patients treated at the different stations :—

Station.	No.
Mohales Hoek	44
Mafeteng	29
Maseru	78
Leribe	34
Total	185

E. C. LONG,
Principal Medical Officer.

Annual Report, Medical Officer, Leribe, for the Year ending June 30, 1895.

I arrived at this station on the 18th May of this year and assumed my duties as medical officer.

For three weeks previous to this no out-patients were seen, and the dispensary was closed for a month, from March 12th to April 13th, during my predecessor's absence on leave.

Vaccination was carried on as usual during these times by the hospital interpreter under the supervision of the Assistant Commissioner.

Statistics.

The following table shows the number of attendances at the dispensary and a comparison with the previous year :—

	1894–95.	1893–94.
New cases	1,581	3,023
Subsequent attendances	406	907
Hospital in-patients	38	50
Vaccinations	6,200	2,614
Total	8,315	6,594

It will be seen that there is a considerable decrease in the number of patients attending the dispensary for medicines. This is to be accounted for by the small charge made for the medicines supplied.

1,115 persons paid for medicine and 952 were treated free.

Syphilis is still prevalent in the District, and of those who presented themselves for the first time 34., or 21·4 per cent., were suffering from various forms of the disease. These numbers show a considerable increase on last year's; then only 84 were entered on the books as syphilitic.

Epidemics.

Small-pox lingered in various parts of the District until December; it was a continuation of the epidemic of the previous year.

Whooping cough and influenza were prevalent during December, January, and February, and were of a mild nature.

Vaccination.

5,769 persons were vaccinated and received certificates, and 341 were vaccinated free. Of the latter 117 were vaccinated at the dispensary, and 224 by police and others.

Health of Police.

The health of the police force continues good. Gastric and catarrhal disorders are frequent complaints.

The health of the prisoners is good.

The sanitary condition of the camps calls for no comment at the present time.

Leprosy.

All the lepers in the District have been seen and examined, and a report forwarded to the Principal Medical Officer.

N. M. MACFARLANE,
Medical Officer.

Annual Report of Medical Officer, Mafeteng, for the Year ended June 30, 1895.

The total number of persons treated as out-patients at the dispensary during the period which this report embraces was 2,127.

Of these, 1,529 were new cases and 598 re-attendances. In the hospital 29 persons were treated, the majority being cases requiring surgical procedure for their relief.

These figures show a falling off upon those of last year of 3,475 as regards the new cases at the dispensary. Two causes have chiefly been at work in producing this diminution in the number of those who presented themselves for treatment.

(1.) The system involving the substitution of a nominal money payment for services hitherto rendered as charity was introduced at the beginning of the financial year, and, as was expected, some considerable time must elapse before the natives avail themselves as freely of such services as heretofore. There can, I think, be little doubt that the working of the system has resulted, and will result, in decided benefit to the persons whom it affects.

(2.) The mild winter of 1894 was followed by a prolonged season exceptionally free from epidemics of any kind, and during which the public health maintained a high standard. The one exception, the prevalence of an epidemic of small-pox during the first half of 1895, would tend, and doubtless has tended, in itself to further decrease the numbers of those seen at the public dispensary by cutting off large areas of population in which quarantine regulations were of necessity enforced.

It is worthy of note that the numbers show a distinct tendency upward month by month.

It is, of course, impossible accurately to gauge the number of persons really needing treatment whom the new system deterred from seeking it. Some estimate may perhaps be gathered from the following table, in which the numbers during a month taken at haphazard in 1894 are compared with those of the corresponding month in 1895, the cases having been classified alike in each.

TABLE A.

Month.	Total.	Syphilis.		Dyspepsia.		Skin.		Catarrhs.		Minor Ailments.		Tænia.		Gonorrhœa.		Diarrhœa.	
	New Cases.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.
1894.																	
March	381	51	13·3	71	18·6	59	15·4	24	6·3	63	16·5	4	1·	3	·07	12	3·1
1895.																	
March	113	21	18·5	16	14·1	9	7·9	7	6·1	16	14·1	4	3·5	3	2·5	3	2·5

It will be seen from the above that, while the relative number of cases of syphilis was greater than that of last year, and while in most cases the averages very closely assimilate, the greatest falling off was apparent in non-specific skin diseases, dyspepsia, and minor ailments in the order given. It may fairly be inferred from a study of these figures that Cause 1 has not been the principal agent in producing the decrease in numbers, since, were it so, slight ailments and dyspepsia would have shown a very marked falling off, those in all probability being the cases which would

have been deterred by pecuniary considerations from seeking relief.

2. Two hundred and forty-nine persons treated for some manifestation of syphilis are comprised in the totals given, a percentage of 17·8, somewhat higher than that of last year. If confined to the treatment of this disease alone, which by its widespread and disastrous effects is little less than a national calamity, the Government dispensaries would justify their existence, since, while there are good grounds for believing that the disease is yearly diminishing, and working less evil among the inhabitants, the number of those affected who present themselves for treatment maintains a high proportion, and the results of treatment are in the highest degree encouraging.

I find that of all the cases 38·7 presented themselves repeatedly for treatment, and many were watched to complete recovery.

3. The first cases of small-pox were reported in November 1894 from a village 10 miles to the N.E. of this camp, the majority of the inhabitants of that and a neighbouring village were attacked and all recovered.

So soon as a personal inspection by the medical officer had placed the existence of the disease beyond doubt the inhabitants were all vaccinated and the infected area quarantined; these measures were successful in preventing the further spread of the disease in that quarter.

Following this, outbreaks were reported from all parts of the District; everywhere the mild character of the epidemic was apparent, and this was particularly the case as regards children and young adults. An epidemic of varicella was in many places concurrent with the variola. So far as I have been able to learn not more than six deaths occurred throughout the District from this cause.

4. In the matter of leprosy I have nothing to add to my report of last year on the subject. Some few of the cases therein mentioned have been intermittently under treatment, and one fresh case has come to my notice at the dispensary.

5. With the exceptions detailed above, the past year has been one in which no epidemics of note have occurred. Public health in the camp has been on the whole excellent, that of the police force and prisoners entirely so. Sporadic cases of typhoid continue to occur from time to time; it is probable that those affected do not receive the poison at their houses, but during the prosecution of a journey or the paying of visits.

During the year the scheme of supplying the camp with water brought in by pipes has been undertaken and carried out. The intake is distant about two miles from the camp and well removed from human habitations the supply is abundant, and, so far as can be judged, pure; the benefit to the community incalculable.

6. At the beginning of the year certified vaccination was made compulsory on all persons leaving the territory, and up to the end of the year 6,203 certificates have been issued from this centre.

The total number of vaccinations performed at dispensary was 5,387 ; and in order to reach those persons who had not the time or inlination to come to the camp for vaccination, public stations were established in various centres throughout the District where attendance was given weekly, and gratuitous arm-to-arm vaccination performed for all who presented themselves. These stations met with considerable success, a total number of 2,661 persons being vaccinated at 10 stations.

The epidemic of small-pox is practically at an end in this District.

M. E. LEICESTER.

Annual Report of Medical Officer, Mohales Hoek, for the Year ending June 30, 1895.

I assumed duty as medical officer of this station on the 1st February of this year. My experience of the work therefore only dates from that time.

Public Health.

A serious outbreak of small-pox made its appearance about the end of November, and rapidly spread to a large number of native villages.

Quarantine, as far as was practicable, was strictly enforced, and vaccination carried out extensively both in the infected areas and at the Government dispensary at Mohales Hoek and elsewhere.

Arm-to-arm vaccination with virus from the pocks helped in some degree to spread the disease. The popularity of this method of securing immunity was short lived, owing, perhaps, to the fact that the chief advocate and practitioner of it, a native doctor, himself succumbed to the disease. It was not possible to obtain reliable information as to the number of persons who suffered from the disease during the whole epidemic, but there is every reason to suppose that the number must have been very large. The disease was, however, mild in type and the mortality very low. In all 7,404 persons were vaccinated with calf lymph supplied by the Bacteriological Institute at Grahams Town, at the Government dispensary, and by vaccinators in the infected areas. 4,607 vaccination certificates were issued to persons leaving the territory. If the vaccination carried out by missionaries and others with lymph supplied from this office, and the arm-to-arm vaccination resorted to by the natives themselves be taken into account, I estimate that the number of persons protected by vaccination during the last year is not less than 10,000. I think it is a matter for congratulation that after the disease had taken so firm a hold of the community it has been possible to stamp it out with so little loss of life.

I regret to have to report the occurrence of typhoid fever amongst the natives resident on the Government Reserve. The disease made its appearance early in the year, and was of the so-called "typho-malarial" type and lacking some of the more

typical features of typhoid fever. During the last four months 16 cases have come under my notice, all children or young adults. Four cases (25 per cent.) ended fatally. After repeated and careful inquiry I am unable to assign any certain cause for the outbreak, though it seems most probable that it was due to drinking polluted water.

A severe epidemic of measles, which attacked many residents on the Reserve, occurred in November, lasting through the following month.

The health of the police detachment and of the prisoners in the gaol has been good.

Sanitation.

I found it necessary some months ago to draw attention to the danger involved in continuing the present objectionable system of cesspits which obtains amongst Europeans resident in the camp.

This mode of disposing of night soil is here the more particularly objectionable, as the fountain from which the Europeans draw their water supply lies at a lower level, and there is thus always a danger of sewage contamination. The question of substituting a pail, or dry-earth, system for the present one is now under consideration by the executive.

I desire also to point out the need which exists for a proper water supply for the camp. Abundant and pure water can be obtained from kloofs close to and overlooking the camp, and if supplied in pipes all danger of contamination would be avoided.

The Public Dispensary and Hospital.

From the 1st July 1894 a sixpenny charge for each attendance for all out-patients, except police and other Government employees, was made. As will be seen by the subjoined table, the attendance has fallen off to less than half that of last year in the new cases, and that in the subsequent attendance the falling off is proportionately even more marked. This last may, I think, be explained by the sixpenny charge preventing patients from persevering in treatment unless marked beneficial results are at once evident. To cases of syphilis this particularly applies. On the whole the charge seems to have weeded out many trivial cases that only attended out of pure love of physic-drinking, and also many deserving cases too poor to afford sixpence for each attendance.

Table showing attendances for this and corresponding period of last year.

1893–94.			1894–95.		
Out-patients.		In-patients.	Out-patients.		In-patients.
New Cases.	Subsequent Attendances.		New Cases.	Subsequent Attendances.	
3,229	1,369	51	1,584	189	44

Of the 1,584 new cases, 860 were males, 724 females, and 369 of these were infants and children. 991 paid the sixpenny fee.

Syphilis still continues to bear an undue proportion to other cases treated. 179, or 12 per cent. of all cases, were syphilitic. Of these 116 were adults with whom it was probably acquired; in 63 cases it was congenital. The preponderance of cases of digestive troubles was again very marked. One fresh case of leprosy has come under my notice since the report on this subject was forwarded to you. It occurred in a young female European resident in this camp.

W. M. EATON,
Medical Officer.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 186.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 1895–6.

(For Reports for 1894–5, *see* No. 152 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
December 1896.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
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2	Zululand	Forests.
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4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.

No. 186.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Reports for 1894–5, *see* No. 152.)

LORD ROSMEAD to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Cape Town,
September 5, 1896.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your information, a copy of a despatch from the Acting Resident Commissioner of Basutoland enclosing the annual reports on the territory for the year ended 30th June 1896.

It is satisfactory to record that in spite of the disturbing elements in other parts of South Africa, the Basutos have maintained a thoroughly pacific attitude. The few internal disputes which have occurred during the year have been successfully dealt with by the Acting Resident Commissioner and his officers.

The threatened advent of mineral prospectors has caused some alarm among the natives, but they have doubtless been reassured by the message which you have recently requested to be sent to the Chiefs.

The liquor traffic carried on by people outside the borders of the territory seems to have given more trouble than usual, but I have no doubt that the officials, both of Basutoland and the Orange Free State, are doing their best to combat it.

The collection by the Chief Lerothodi of so large a sum as 3,184*l.* towards the establishment of an institution for the industrial training of Basuto boys is satisfactory.

The trade of the country is in a very satisfactory state, as evidenced by the imports and exports and by the Customs Union revenue, which is increasing annually. This revenue, which during the past year amounted to over 11,000*l.*, is, as you are aware, handed over to the Cape Government in aid of its contribution of 18,000*l.* per annum to the general revenue. It is not, however, certain that it will be possible to retain Basutoland in the Customs Union when a new Convention is concluded.

Much damage has been done to the crops by locusts, but it is satisfactory to find that the scourge of rinderpest has been kept out of Basutoland.

I have, &c.
ROSMEAD,
Governor and High Commissioner.

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o 94040. Wt. 20348.

BASUTOLAND. 1895–96.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1896.

SIR,

I HAV the honour to transmit to your Excellency a Report upon British Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1896, covering reports by the Acting Government Secretary (statistical), Assistant Commissioners and Medical Officers.

2. It would be idle to deny that recent political disquietude in South Africa, commencing with the Transvaal disturbances of January last, and culminating in the Matabele outbreak, caused a wave of restlessness in this territory. The native mind is easily moved, and tardily appeased. False rumours regarding the responsibility and defeat of the British Government in the matter of the raid were freely circulated by designing persons, with the object of lowering British prestige. Thousands of labourers returned in a panic from Johannesburg and other parts, full of misleading reports that war was imminent between English and Dutch.

The Basuto were incautiously approached by a few mischievous people with a view to shake their allegiance to Government. Reports in newspapers as to their warlike attitude, intentions, and possible confederations put evil and ill-timed ideas into their heads, calculated to give them an exalted idea of their own power and importance.

While all this was simmering, those who mostly complained of having a menacing tribe on their borders were, in spite of legal prohibition, unconsciously betrayed by reprobates who carried on illicit traffic in arms and ammunition and inflamed passions by the sale of drink.

Yet, considering the unsettling forces at work, and uneasiness generated in all native tribes when the surrounding atmosphere is disturbed, the Basuto may be given credit for their confidence in the quieting assurances of Government and their steady determination to pursue a pacific course apparently unmoved by foreign complications and alarms. This confidence was severely tested when, upon the Orange Free State arming to assist the Transvaal, rumours rapidly spread that it was intended as a demonstration against Basutoland. A certain section of the tribe were then no doubt urged to assume a watching attitude.

The operations in Matabeleland were regarded rather with interest than sympathy for the rebels, whose brutal murderous acts were universally deplored and condemned by the leading Basuto. The Paramount Chief Lerothodi, though the recipient of innumerable scaring stories, preserved a calm demeanour throughout, declining to get excited or lend himself to other than his responsible advisers. While inheriting the failings common to native humanity he has discharged the duties required of him by Government in a reasonable way, particularly in matters regarding foreign thefts and complications.

Generous in character, he nevertheless is prone to err by severity of fines in adjudicating upon native cases.

His example in the matter of drink has not been so satisfactory, though a vast improvement on earlier years. One or two lamentable outbursts of intemperance led to a suspension of all public work so far as he was concerned, and consequent confusion. I had then to place reliable men at his village and special patrolling camps along the border. In no case, however, did he resist the police in the execution of their duty.

3. Notwithstanding the paralysing influences militating during the year against any marked progress, efforts, however spasmodic and hard to illustrate, have not been wanting. We must always be careful not to measure natives by European standards. The Basuto much appreciate the form of constitutional government under which their wishes and grievances are allowed free ventilation, but their race characteristics, together with the impatience of Chiefs of any control likely to impair their traditional powers, are deterrent elements of progress, not absolutely to contend with, but with which to work as far as practicable, in extracting and employing what is worthy. By endeavouring to suppress customs repugnant to civilised thought, developing industrial habits and respect for such laws as are prescribed, upon obedience to which their existence as a nation must always depend, a quiet reclaiming process is at work, entailing the exercise of patience, forbearance, and the conquest in detail of many difficulties known only to those engaged upon it. The people lack capacity to govern themselves, and though extremely intelligent, are dependent in their childish weakness and art of deception upon firm and generous guidance.

Their greatest enemies are internal convulsions, which are liable to render them conspicuous for turbulence, and, as such, a mark of reproach in the South African Dominion.

They cannot, however, realise the danger of it, and often, I believe, ascribe to us sinister motives in suppressing disturbance lest perhaps they may be led to forfeit their martial spirit.

Sweeping measures of reform often urged and expected are more likely to offend popular sentiments and convictions than to effect the object immediately desired. Loose philanthropy has equally little to recommend it.

4. To illustrate the national industry, I may refer to statistics showing that the large number of 28,000 went abroad to labour during the year, in addition to which the output of grain was considerably increased. High wages offered at Johannesburg are no doubt attractive. It has, however, disadvantages. Natives no longer care to seek work in the country or upon border farms at low rates of wages, when they can earn treble at the mines. The effect also upon some who accumulate considerable wages is to promote laziness, while, on the other hand, many acquire tastes for civilised clothes and furniture, and spend their money accordingly. This is good for trade.

We have yet to learn how far the contact of this annual stream of labour with the outer world, the free thought engendered, and the contracting of vices so easily learnt at mining centres, are

educating them to think for themselves, and creating a tendency to shake off the trammels of Chieftainship.

5. I alluded last year to the demand for industrial training of Basuto boys, and my reply to the effect that if the people really cherished the idea they should show some earnest of it by providing the initial means for building and endowment of an institution—a thing well within their power to do. It is gratifying now to report that, from a collection inaugurated by the Paramount Chief Lerothodi, to whom the sole credit is due, responded to as yet only partially by the tribe, the healthy sum of 3,184*l.* has been received and handed to me for deposit in the bank at interest.

Some important Chiefs inimical to Lerothodi, notably Jonathan and Masupha, have not as yet identified themselves with the movement; and others again have probably misappropriated a portion of their collections. Though errors may creep in, as they do amongst all peoples, it is well to encourage in all reasonable ways the principle of self-help. The movement in this case was spontaneous, the object laudable and beneficial as a means of fostering local industry and interest in native undertakings.

6. It is comforting to chronicle but few serious internal disorders during the year. The very grave situation due to intrigues against the paramountcy alluded to in former years has been somewhat relieved, dangerous opposition having eased, though not entirely subsided.

Lerothodi experiences at times considerable resistance from Jonathan, Molapo, and Masupha who, though desiring to be paramount in their own districts, deny the rights of others.

In preserving, however, a useful balance of power, these defections serve their purpose. Tribal disputes, though endless, and having a serious side, tend to completely localise tribal attention. They all originate in land questions, which offer a prolific source of contention.

In former days boundaries were made for all principal Chiefs. These boundaries were but roughly indicated, extending only to the terminus of their cultivated areas.

As year by year population and civilised tastes grew, a corresponding demand arose for land to cultivate grain, which is the purchasing power. Thus the communal pasturage became gradually absorbed, each annual process of breaking new land leading to disputes and the necessity for re-delimitation of the hinterland.

Many such disputes have latterly arisen, particularly in that part of the country where the late Ramanella's inheritance is wedged in between Jonathan and Masupha. The two latter formed a rather unnatural alliance (for the history of past feuds makes it practically impossible for them to be real friends), the object being to try and divide Ramanella's country between them. The alliance was vigorously opposed by the Paramount Chief and a section of younger Chiefs who viewed with some impatience the prospect of being similarly swallowed up by the elder. On matters reaching an acute stage it became necessary for me to

proceed with the Paramount Chief to the locality and make such boundary adjustments as were necessary to check immediate confusion This was done successfully and attempts made to reconcile other discordant questions between Jonathan and Peete (Ramanella's successor).

But for reasons already given there can be no finality in these boundaries until the last limit of arable land has been reached. Meanwhile the pasturage is fast disappearing.

Another serious disturbance affecting land arose among the Makoakoa clan of the late Chief Matela, now ruled by his successor Letsika in Leribe district. A fight ensued, five men being killed and several wounded. The case, as well as others of the same nature, but unattended with casualties, was well and judiciously dealt with by Mr. Sloley, who acted as Resident Commissioner during my absence in England. Several persons, including Letsika's son and brother, concerned in the affray were committed to prison, and a fine imposed upon the clan for rioting with violence and disturbing the public peace.

In the same way all Assistant Commissioners have been frequently engaged as intermediaries in the successful treatment of district quarrels.

7. In suppressing crime and facilitating the ends of justice the great majority of Chiefs have behaved well.

There are of course at times unruly outbursts on the part of young and irresponsible Chiefs, who attempt to revive shadows of uncontrolled power to which they believe themselves born. These young men require much guiding. One bad case occurred in which a son of Leduma, Chief of the Ba-Pushudi, on being arrested for contravention of Liquor Laws by smuggling brandy, resisted the police, and escaped to the mountains, where he defied capture. He eventually sought refuge at the village of Griffith, a young and restive son of Lerothodi, where temporary harbour was afforded. I directed Lerothodi to apprehend the fugitive, which he did personally, and, upon being handed over, the offender was tried by the District Magistrate and committed to prison.

The Chief Masupha becomes, in his old age, more and more troublesome. He exhibits puerile fancies and is a great drag upon the wheels of progress.

By his coalition with Jonathan afore-mentioned, he vainly contemplated returning to the original land disposition of 30 years ago, thus abrogating all constituted boundaries since made, recorded, and confirmed.

I much regret that he has just made a deliberate attempt to revive the horrible custom of witchcraft by "eating up" the entire property of a man designedly accused of it. The practice is now moribund and condemned generally by national opinion. The matter is occupying my attention, but I anticipate trouble on account of Masupha's jaundiced obstinacy and of the fact that cattle once seized are hard to recover.

8. I regret to say that liquor traffic during the past year was probably worse than usual. At times of political disturbance such as South Africa, has passed through, weaker minds are most apt to be captured by demoralising influences. Our police patrolled over 36,000 miles and have done their best towards suppression. But we have to contend with an unprincipled class beyond our borders who are willing to risk the law in a trade admitting of handsome profits.

The Orange Free State Government, to whose officials we are indebted for co-operation, emphatically expresses the desire to suppress canteens in that State, where liquor is sold to natives, and whenever we can produce evidence of such sales to our people the law is put in motion; but as a rule buyers and sellers combine to defeat conviction.

9. Trade returns show a material increase of imports, exports, and productions. The volume of imports exceeds any other year since Basutoland joined the Customs Union, our share of duties amounting to 11,146*l.* This sum is taken as a set-off to the Cape contribution of 18,000*l.*, which is further reduced by a payment of 1,301*l.* from our working balance.

10. Crops, apparently destroyed in early summer by drought and locust, revived remarkably, and eventually proved to be of fair average. Countless numbers of locusts covered the face of the country, committing great ravages. They were attacked occasionally by the natives, trapped and burnt, and in co-operation with the Cape Government specific efforts were made by the Assistant Commissioner, Quthing, with success, to attack them wholesale along East Griqualand border. Though prolific crops may appear gratifying, it is not so. Experience shows that in such seasons the value of grain is inordinately low, trade is inferior, and abundance of food begets laziness.

11. The threatened spread of rinderpest compelled me reluctantly to forbid the holding of any winter agricultural shows.

It was unfortunate to suffer a break in these enterprising meetings, but we feared assembly of cattle might, if the disease reached our territory, have given rise to a superstition that shows were the cause of it. Upon the epidemic being reported at Harrismith in the Orange Free State immediate action was taken to prohibit all cattle intercourse along our northern border and subsequently, by proclamation, necessary powers were conferred on me to take all precautionary measures for the future.

12. Statistics in crime show a decrease in convictions, but an increase of culpable homicide due to plentifulness of Kaffir corn, beer, and village brawls.

Considering the small amount of police supervision to which the people, but recently emerged from barbarism, are subjected, the general deference to law is noticeable.

I regret that a deplorable murder occurred amongst the Molop clan in Leribe, where a man was killed for medicine, at the instigation, probably, of native doctors. Every effort to trace and

convict the real culprits failed, in consequence of suppression of evidence, but several persons, including two sons of the Chief, were committed to prison for conspiring to defeat justice.

Molopi himself was deposed from his position as Chief, and a fine inflicted on the whole clan.

The police are drawn entirely from the country, where intense loyalty exists between Chiefs and people. It is remarkable, as a rule, how well and efficiently they work when their duties and sympathies come in conflict.

A force of 50 Basuto were enrolled, equipped, and despatched for service in the Bechuanaland Protectorate, under command of Captain Mooney, who has had 12 years' experience in Basutoland. It is hoped that if the men have a fair chance of learning the customs and country, the experiment will be a success.

A further demand for 250 men for service under the Chartered Company as permanent police in Matabeleland was not readily responded to. I attribute this to a fear that they were required for fighting purposes, and a dread of being tribally involved in the deadly struggle known to be going on.

13. Hospitals and medical work continue to be usefully maintained. They are now partially self-supporting. No serious epidemics prevailed, with the exception of a mild type of small-pox, now seemingly chronic in all parts where natives congregate in South Africa.

It yields readily to treatment, and is attended with trifling mortality. Extensive vaccination, the superstitious objection to which is now practically overcome, may prove of great public benefit.

From medical reports it appears that syphilitic and kindred diseases are diminishing in severity under persistent treatment.

14. Collection of native hut-tax is now, except in Berea district, reduced to such a system that within two months of calling for it the bulk is paid.

Masupha is, amongst Chiefs, alone distinguished for apathy in discharging his duties in this respect. The gross tax in the territory annually shows an increase proportionate to growth of population.

15. Education proceeds as well as may reasonably be expected of a native territory where progress is slow in movement.

The mission societies whose efforts are directed towards it afford readily all facilities for inspection by Government Officers, and appropriate their grants judiciously. The phenomenal success of 20 Basuto lads sent up by the Paris Evangelical Mission for Cape public examinations, of whom 10 passed in honours, and 10 in high classes, is a fact worthy of tribute to their intelligence, as well as to the capacity of the Society.

Their religious work is surrounded by all the difficulties and counteraction inseparable from labour in aboriginal fields. If the fruits are not readily seen, they are felt in various ways. The advantages of labour and industry, a respect for law and order and domestic discipline, are, I believe, prominent features in all religious teaching.

16. In closing this report I beg your Excellency will be pleased to represent to Her Majesty's Government the good and faithful services rendered by the officers of this Administration, to whom, as a body, much credit is due for zeal, discretion, and success.

I have, &c.

G. Y. LAGDEN,
Acting Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

His Excellency
The High Commissioner,
&c. &c. &c.
South Africa.

ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTING GOVERNMENT SECRETARY, 1895–1896.

Finance.

The Basutoland revenue for the year ended 30th June 1896 is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Colonial contribution - - -	18,000	0	0
Hut tax - - - -	22,966	6	4
Post Office - - - -	1,210	5	0
Licenses - - - -	1,420	5	0
Fines - - - -	652	17	0
Ferry tolls - - - -	295	1	0
Fees - - - -	50	1	2
Miscellaneous - - -	1,059	2	7
Total -	45,653	18	1

The hut tax includes arrears paid, principally by men absent from their homes during last collection, amounting to 1,216*l.*, leaving an amount of hut tax paid for the current year of 21,750*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.* This exceeds the amount of hut tax of last year by 1,060*l.*, a satisfactory increase.

This has admitted of a refund to the Cape Colonial Government of the sum of 1,300*l.* in reduction of the amount contributed towards the expenses of the administration of Basutoland.

Trade.

The dutiable goods imported into Basutoland of which returns are procurable amount, for the 12 months ended 31st March 1896, to a gross value of 104,858*l.*

	£
From the Cape Colony - -	4,090
„ „ Orange Free State - -	55,768
Total -	104,858

The traffic returns rendered show, as the gross weight of imports into Basutoland 2,775 tons, of 2,000 lbs., or about 850

waggon loads. This represents a considerable increase in imports and a corresponding increase in the amount of customs dues earned and remitted to the Cape Government as a set off against the amount of the Cape contribution towards Basutoland expenses. These customs earnings amounted for the same period to 11,146*l.* The Customs returns upon which these figures are computed do not include an amount of cash trade with the Basuto, approximately estimated at 30,000*l.* per annum, done by the numerous and large stores within the Orange Free State upon the Basutoland border. The increase in the amount of imports is due to the high prices which the Basuto have realised for their produce during the past year.

The exports of produce are as follows, the return showing the figures for the past two calendar years :—

Articles.	1894.				1895.			
		£	*s.*	*d.*		£	*s.*	*d.*
Wheat - - bags	129,821	44,426	8	0	151,077	74,475	4	0
Mealies - - „	68,100	16,265	9	0	82,429	33,857	9	8
Kaffir corn - „	6,526	2,528	15	2	3,681	1,675	14	6
Meal - - „	921	644	0	0	4,037	4,529	0	0
Mealie meal - „	—	—			1,861	832	14	0
Wool - - lbs.	903,791	12,411	0	3	1,116,999	15,988	0	2
Mohair - - „	68,449	2,151	8	0	83,657	3,499	7	2
Cattle - - No.	639	2,072	5	9	427	1,348	5	6
Horses - - „	519	2,157	4	0	409	1,964	19	6
Miscellaneous - -	—	751	0	2	—	1,325	1	5
		83,407	10	4		139,495	15	11

The above exports were thus distributed :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
To Cape Colony - - -	56,978	12	0
To Orange Free State - -	82,517	3	11
Total - - -	139,495	15	11

There is also a considerable amount of produce taken out of Basutoland by natives and hawkers; this is not included in the above returns.

The following licenses were issued :—

To general traders (shops) - - - -	132
To paid hawkers - - - -	107
To free hawkers - - - -	180
Dam licences - - - -	2

Agricultural and Meteorological.

The officers in charge of districts have reported on the conditions of agriculture during the past year.

No agricultural shows were held, on account of a report, fortunately since proved to have been unfounded, of the existence of rinderpest within the Orange Free State.

BASUTOLAND. 1895–96.

The following are some of the results of observations taken at seven different stations throughout the country :—

Average rainfall, 35·625 inches.
Daily range of temperature, 50° approximately.
Maximum registered in Stevenson's screen, 100°.
Minimum registered in Stevenson's screen, 17°.

Labour and Passes.

The following is a comparative return of passes issued during the past three years :—

1893–94.			1894–95.			1895–96.		
Labour.	Other Purposes.	Total.	Labour.	Other Purposes.	Total.	Labour.	Other Purposes.	Total.
20,000	32,207	52,207	25,384	37,495	62,879	28,115	41,286	69,401

Police and Crime.

The strength of the Basutoland police is—

European officers - - - -	11
European constables - - - -	12
Native officers - - - -	4
Native non-commissioned officers - -	22
Native privates - - - -	198

who have performed the following patrols :—

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled.	Arrests.		
			Liquor Laws.	Pass Laws.	Other Offences.
751	1,738	Miles. 36,071	57	114	85

The Chiefs and headmen have rendered on almost every occasion willing and efficient help in recovering lost and stolen stock from the Orange Free State and other neighbouring territories with the following results :—

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses - -	89	18	71	25	64	
Cattle - -	163	55	108	68	95	49 recovered in Cape Colony.
Sheep and goats -	149	25	124	25	124	

It will thus be seen that all lost stock definitely traced into Basutoland has been recovered.

There has been a decrease in the number of criminal convictions during the year, chiefly in the number of charges under the Pass Law.

The following is a list of convictions :—

Assault	21
Customs Laws (breach of)	3
Birth (concealment of)	2
Contempt of court	1
Drunkenness	2
Fire arms (breach of law of)	1
Fraud	1
Homicide (culpable)	13
Liquor laws (breach of)	65
Murder	1
Pass laws (breach of)	124
Resisting police	20
Theft	54
Trading laws (breach of)	8
Other offences	40
Total	356

Civil cases adjudicated upon, 16.

Gaols.

The number of prisoners received into gaol was 248. The total number in prison on 30th June was 79.

Postal and Telegraphic.

The work done by these departments is increasing and a corresponding increase of both revenue and expenditure under these heads occurs. There is an increase of 23,000 in the number of letters, &c., posted in Basutoland during the past year, and an increase of 40,000 in the number of letters, &c., received in the country. There are increases also in the number of money orders issued and paid and also in the number of savings bank deposits and withdrawals.

I have the honour to submit the following reports for the past year :—

Assistant Commissioner, Leribe.
" Berea.
" Maseru.
" Mafeteng.
" Mohale's Hoek.
" Quthing.

Officer in charge, Qacha's Nek.
Principal Medical Officer, Maseru.
Medical Officer, Leribe.
" Mafeteng
" Mohale's Hoek.
" Quthing.

H. C. SLOLEY,
Acting Government Secretary.

LERIBE.

Annual Report, 1895–96.

Since I assumed office here in June last year there has been no great change in the political situation.

Letsika Matela, who, as stated by my predecessor in his report for last year, was entrusted with the settlement of matters in Matela's ward and instructed to provide for his younger brothers, failed to do so and in September the Chief Jonathan did it for him. The settlement was not, I think, the best possible, inasmuch as it left several discordant elements in juxtaposition to each other. Two of these, Tlakametsa and Thakabanna, Letsika s eldest son, soon fell out, and in October Thakabanna, no doubt incited thereto by his father, attacked Tlakametsa with guns. Several men were killed, and there was a considerable amount of looting. I happened to be at Butha Buthe at the time and was able to stop the disturbance by despatching Lefi, Jonathan's representative at that end of the district, with some police to the spot. The rioters were tried before the Acting Resident Commissioner and sentences of imprisonment were passed on the more prominent of them, and a heavy fine imposed on Letsika and his people.

Matters are still unsatisfactory at Queneng among Ramanella's sons. Peete has never adjusted matters between his son Mitchel, who was placed last year, and his brother Seshope. Possibly Seshope may be in some degree responsible for this, as his attitude to Peete has not been ali that it should be; but there can be no doubt that, if persisted in, this neglect of Peete to fulfil his promise, and also to exercise a restraining influence on his son Mitchel, is very reprehensible and may sooner or later result in disaster. I understand, however, that the Paramount Chief is at present at Peete's and, in conjunction with other Chiefs, is urging him to settle this matter.

For years past Ramanella's people have been in dispute with Molapo's people about a certain boundary between them at Dipetung. This matter has now been settled by the Resident Commissioner, apparently to the satisfaction of all parties, and a well-defined natural boundary has been proclaimed.

The question of the mountain grazing rights for the Leribe people, alluded to by my predecessor in last year's report, is still unsettled, and Jonathan and his clan are consequently dissatisfied. Possibly this may account for a want of co-operation on Jonathan's

part with the Paramount Chief in national matters and a corresponding want of support by Lerothodi of Jonathan's authority as Chief of this district.

The relations between Jonathan and Joel are probably not quite so cordial as they were lately.

Joel has asked that the Chieftainship over Matela's tribe, which in 1890 was taken from him and vested in Jonathan, should be returned to him: and Tlasoa, a younger brother of Jonathan and Joel, who during the gun war deserted Jonathan for Joel, now shows signs of a desire to return to his old allegiance; these, together with other little matters, point to a certain amount of friction existing between the two brothers, but still I think they would be found standing together in any case in which the interests of the Molapo clan were involved.

It is satisfactory to report that notwithstanding the existence of causes of disagreement between Chiefs, and the provocation offered to Jonathan by subordinates, notably in the attack upon Tlakametsa mentioned above, his attitude and that of the principal Chiefs has invariably been one of moderation and self-control.

The revenue for the year under report is as follows, collected here and at my substation at Butha Buthe:—

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax - - - -	5,351	10	0
Licenses - - - -	385	2	6
Fines - - - -	151	4	0
Fees - - - -	3	18	6
Miscellaneous - - -	173	10	0
	6,065	5	0

Arrear tax amounted to 305*l.* 10*s.*; tax was paid on 10,182 huts.

The licenses issued during the year were:—

General traders - - - -	35
Paid hawkers - - - -	46
Free hawkers - - -	41

Crops have been poor and prices of grain are high still, though they have fallen lately.

Vast swarms of locusts (voetgangers) appeared in the autumn and did great damage to the crops, but not sufficient to cause anything approaching to a famine. These locusts were caught by the frost before they were full grown, and it is hoped that they have all succumbed to it without having had time to lay eggs.

The current prices for produce at present are approximately:—

Wheat, 20*s.* per muid.
Mealies, 14*s.* „
Kaffir corn, 14*s.* „
Forage, 2*l.* per 100 bundles.
Cattle, about 4*l.* each according to size, age, &c.
Sheep, 12*s.* each.

The following is a return of patrols performed:—

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled.	Arrests.		
			Liquor Laws.	Pass Law.	Other Offences.
210	420	6,841	5	58	9

I have received willing co-operation from the Free State authorities in all border matters. No doubt a certain quantity of brandy finds its way into the country, but smuggling is not carried on to any very great extent. Prompt action has always been taken by the Landdrost of Ficksburg whenever a supposed case of smuggling has been brought to his notice by me.

The cases adjudicated upon in my courts are:—

Civil cases	6
Theft	11
Contravention Liquor Laws	9
„ Pass „	62
„ Customs „	3
„ Reserve „	4
„ Law relating to firearms	1
Culpable homicide	7
Murder	1
Creating a disturbance	6
Resisting police	13
Assault	6
Maliciously wounding cattle	1

The following is a return showing the results of action taken in the matter of tracing lost stock:—

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	15	4	11	4	11
Cattl	23	10	13	10	13
Sheep	16	16	—	16	—

Two head of cattle and one horse reported as not having been recovered last year have since been heard of. The horse has been recovered and returned to its owner; the cattle, which were stolen by the same thief, who is now in gaol, are said to have passed through Basutoland, and re-entered the Free State near Kemi in the Maseru district.

Passes have been issued here as follows :—

For seeking employment - - -	6,076
For other purposes - - -	15,795
Total - - -	21,871

Several cases of small-pox have broken out from time to time, but as they were promptly isolated the disease did not spread.

J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

BEREA.

Annual Report, 1896.

During the past year the district has been quiet as far as any actual fighting is concerned.

There are, however, one or two long standing disputes which have caused a good deal of anxiety.

The most important is that between Peete and Lebese Masupha as to the ploughing rights of the latter.

In April Mr. Sloley was deputed by the Resident Commissioner to come out to Masalomane, and to again point out the line he had before made, and amplify any obscure points in it. This was done, but Peete still complained that Lebese was encroaching on his rights in various ways.

In June the Resident Commissioner, accompanied by Mr. Sloley, came to Masalomane, the Paramount Chief being present and Masupha.

The Resident Commissioner viewed the entire line, but declined to entertain the idea of making any alterations in it. Masupha said that he had given orders to Lebese to discontinue the encroachments.

At one time there was great danger of hostilities occurring in connexion with this matter, when, on June 2nd, Mitchell (Peete's son) came from the Leribe district with a body of armed men, presumably to help his father in case Masupha tried to alter the line shown as Lebese's boundary.

Masupha, however, did not then go to Masalomane as he was expected to do, and Mitchell went home.

The matter of Phatso is of less moment, but it unfortunately led to the death of a man.

Phatso, the eldest son of Mota, left his father's ward some years ago and took up his residence in the Leribe district. After his father's death he returned and naturally expected to assume his father's rights.

In this he was disappointed, and there was a good deal of friction in consequence.

The Chief Masupha promised to settle the matter, but so far has failed to do so. At the time of writing, however, it is reported that Masupha is engaged in this matter.

In June a dispute arose as to grazing rights between Mamathe's people and Phatso's, and in a fight which ensued one man of Phatso's was very badly wounded and has since died.

BASUTOLAND. 1895–96.

Great trouble was caused by the chief Martinus in November and December last, in the matter of two horses which strayed from the Free State to his village, and which horses he refused to give up when called on to do so. It was only after long delay and on the interference of the Resident Commissioner that the horses were handed over.

Few passes were issued to natives seeking employment at Johannesburg during the months of January and February. Several batches, it was said, were refused permission to cross the Vaal river.

This action no doubt deterred others from going. Confidence was, however, restored and passes were once more freely demanded.

It was reported that some border farmers, to avoid leaving their farms when ordered to proceed to the Vaal river at the time of the inroad of Dr. Jameson into the Transvaal, circulated a rumour that the Basuto were preparing to invade the Free State.

There was no foundation for this rumour, as the natives were in no way disturbed and were carrying on their ordinary pursuits.

Liquor is, I regret to report, being smuggled into the district, principally by Chiefs, which makes it the harder to catch those concerned.

Of late, information has been obtained as to a man living on a border farm in the Orange Free State, which it is hoped may lead to a stop being put to this traffic to a great extent. This man is said to get his supplies from a bottle store in Lady Brand.

Of serious crime there have been six cases during the year, viz., five of homicide* and one of child murder. Only four serious cases of theft have occurred during the year.

In May a case of small-pox occurred in Peete's ward. The man attacked, and his village, were ordered to be quarantined.

There has again been great delay on the part of Chief Masupha and his sons in co-operating in the collection of hut tax, which came in very slowly. There is, however, an increase of 94*l.* over the amount of last year.

The strength of the police at this station is at present—

Sub-Inspector	1
European constable	1
Native sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ lance-corporal	1
„ privates	23

The following are the patrols done by this detachment during the year :—

Number of patrols	81
„ „ men	200
„ „ miles	3,489

* One by a lunatic.

The arrests made were as under :—

Contravening liquor regulations - -	5
„ pass „ - -	3
Other offences - - - -	12

The following is a return of lost and stolen stock reported here :—

Stock.	Traced.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not recovered.	Total reported.	Remarks.
Horses - -	6	2	6	2	8	
Cattle - -	10	1	10	1	11	

The following cases were heard in the Assistant Commissioner's Court during the year :—

Homicide - - - - -	3
Theft - - - - -	5
Contravening Liquor Laws - - -	9
„ Pass „ - - -	5
Other offences - - - -	10
Civil case - - - -	1
	33

The following is the revenue of the district for the year :—

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax - - - -	2,850	10	0
Licenses, 262*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* - - } Fines, 48*l.* 15*s.* - - - }	310	17	6
Fees of court or office - -	4	2	6
Miscellaneous - - -	73	12	6
	3,239	2	6

Of the above sum of 2,850*l.* 10*s.* for hut tax, the sum of 270*l.* 10*s.* was arrears.

During the year the following licenses have been issued :—

General traders - - - -	23
Hawkers (paid) - - - -	32
„ (free) - - - -	34

The following are the passes issued during the year :—

Number of passes for work -	4,715
„ „ „ „ other business -	4,289
Total -	9,004

Grain, though cheaper than it has been of late, is still very dear, viz., mealies, 15*s.* to 18*s.*; Kaffir corn the same; oats not to be had.

W. BOXWELL,
Acting Assistant Commissioner,
Berea.

MASERU.

Annual Report for Year ended 30th June 1896.

Assistant Commissioner's Office,
June 30, 1896.

During the year under report the district has been in a state of profound peace.

In connexion with the disturbance between the Paramount Chief and Maama reported last year several minor disputes have arisen, but have invariably been brought to the courts and settled without any trouble.

The Chiefs Motseki and Sekhobe being dissatisfied with the treatment they received at the hands of the Paramount Chief removed from the Matsieng Ward and took up their abode with Maama, with whom they had identified themselves in the disturbance referred to above.

During the recent troublous times in the Transvaal some persons, to suit their own purposes, rumoured that the natives were preparing to raid the Orange Free State. It goes without saying that this was entirely false.

Commercial.

Trade has been exceptionally good this year Good prices have been paid for all produce.

Public Works.

The roads are in good repair throughout the district.

Police.

The district detachment consists of—

Sub-Inspector - - - -	1
European constables - - - -	3
Native sergeants - - - -	1
„ corporals - - - -	2
„ privates - - - -	44

The following is a return of patrols :—

No. of Patrols.	Number of Men engaged.	Approximate Distance travelled.	Arrests.	
74	275	Miles. 4,412	Contravening Liquor Laws -	6
			Contravening Pass Laws -	3
			Other offences - -	11
			Total - -	20

The liquor traffic, though less than formerly, is by no means suppressed. The police have done good work towards suppression and border officials express a desire to co-operate in putting down border canteens.

The following table shows action taken in the matter of tracing lost and stolen stock:—

Description.	No. reported.	Traced to Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses -	36	3	33	5	31	2 recovered on Lady Brand Reserve.
Cattle -	39	23	16	36	3	14 traced to Aliwal and restored to owner; 1 sold to a person unknown.
Sheep -	10	—	10	—	10	

Serious crime continues to be rare.

The following cases were tried in my court:—

Contravening liquor regulations -	6
,, pass regulations -	3
,, reserve regulations -	2
,, trading regulations -	2
,, Masters and Servants Act -	3
Theft - - - - -	13
Assault - - - - -	3
Fraud - - - - -	1
Breach of peace - - - -	1
Concealment of birth - - -	2
Bestiality - - - - -	1
Resisting police - - - -	2
Gaol breaking - - - -	1

There was one civil action.

Revenue.

The revenue for the 12 months is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax - - - -	3,944	10	0
Licenses - - - -	242	0	0
Fines - - - -	45	0	0
Ferry tolls - - -	115	11	3
Fees - - -	16	19	8
Miscellaneous - - -	184	17	10
Total -	4,548	18	9

The hut tax shows an increase of 188*l.* 10*s.* on last year's collection. Tax was paid on 7,329 huts. Arrear hut tax amounts to 280*l.*

Passes.

Passes were issued to 9,160 persons; of these 5,308 were in search of employment.

Licenses.

General traders licenses issued	23
Paid hawkers licenses issued	12
Free hawkers licenses issued	57

Intercourse with the border officials continues to be of a friendly nature.

C. GRIFFITH,
A.A.C.

The Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

MAFETENG.

Annual Report, 1895–1896.

1. The political events which occurred in South Africa made the Basuto suspicious and uneasy, and European agitators having found their way into Basutoland circulated reports calculated to disturb the people and cause them to receive with caution the assurances of Government officers that no change in the present system of administration was contemplated in Basutoland.

A rumour drifted into the country to the effect that Basutoland was to be thrown open to prospectors and the commandeering and arming of Free State burghers, in connexion with the Transvaal troubles, gave credence to the report and caused the Chiefs to watch with keen interest the progress of political matters in South Africa. It is worthy of note that during this period of uneasiness the Basuto of this district made no demonstration of any kind, but followed their ordinary agricultural and peaceful pursuits, and nothing of an extraordinary nature occurred to disturb the district during the past year.

2. Chief Molomo Solomone Mohale died on 30th January 1896 and he was buried at Thaba Bosin.

3. Although the neighbouring Free State officials do their best to stop the illicit sale of liquor to natives, the canteen trade still goes on along the border and in the town of Wepener; several of the vendors have been heavily fined by the Landdrost of the district, but this does not deter them from a trade that brings them handsome profits.

Wepener, being situated close to Basutoland, derives considerable commercial support from the Basuto who reside on the western border of this district. The traders in Basutoland keep a similar class of goods and also pay about the same price for produce and stock as the shopkeepers of Wepener, yet thousands of Basuto go there yearly to buy and to sell, and I regret to state that it is brandy that in most cases attracts our natives to the town. Basuto who go from Basutoland to Wepener are not under the usual police supervision after they enter the Free State, as the Pass Law of the Orange Free State has been in abeyance for

some years in order to encourage trade, and thus the Basuto have great opportunities to obtain brandy and also guns and ammunition from illicit sellers. I have, with the consent of Government, stationed a European pass issuer on the Basutoland border near Wepener, and police are also stationed at the border fence gates on the main roads. Patrols constantly pass along the line, but notwithstanding these precautions our native smugglers elude the police and get through the fence at convenient places with their illicit wares. As an instance of the trouble caused by liquor smuggling in this district I would mention that in February last Maphuma, a minor son of Chief Leduma, was arrested by police on a charge of brandy smuggling from Wepener. On leaving the Mafeteng court house in custody he escaped from his escort, sprang on a horse, and galloped out of the village. He reached his home, possessed himself of guns and ammunition and, accompanied by a few lads, eventually sought protection from Griffith Lerothodi, near the Orange River, some 60 miles distant. Several mounted policemen were engaged in following up this youth, and when he was traced to Griffith Lerothodi's, difficulties arose about his arrest, and it became necessary for the Resident Commissioner to direct the Paramount Chief to personally capture Maphuma and those with him. This was done, and Maphuma and five others are now in the Mafeteng gaol undergoing sentences of hard labour for their misdeeds. Griffith Lerothodi was also fined thirty (30) head of cattle for harbouring Maphuma.

4. I attach a return of patrols performed by the Mafeteng detachment of police during the past 12 months.

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled.	Arrests.		
			Liquor Laws.	Pass Laws.	Other Offences.
93	396	Miles. 5,254	34	13	16

The district Chiefs have rendered all necessary assistance in arresting accused persons, tracing lost and stolen stock and generally carrying out Government instructions and regulations. I append a return of lost and stolen stock:

Description.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Reported.	Remarks.
Horses	—	5	3*	2	5	* Found by owners in Orange Free State.
Cattle	2	5	2	5	7	
Sheep	—	—	—	—	—	

Considering the population of this district, which in 1891 was estimated at 40,000, there was a remarkable absence of serious crime, the following being a return of civil and criminal cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's court.

Civil suits	3
Culpable homicide	2
Contravening liquor laws	34
„ pass laws	14
„ trading laws	2
Theft	3
Escaping from lawful custody	1
Assault	11
Infanticide	1
Neglect of duty and drunkenness (police)	2

5. The detachment of Basutoland Mounted Police at this station is efficient, well mounted and equipped, and the men are constantly employed on useful and varied duties. The horses are serviceable. The strength of the detachment under my command is:—

Sub-Inspector	1
European constables	3
Native officer	1
Sergeant	1
Corporal	1
Privates	31

6. There was a prolonged drought during the summer, and swarms of locusts abounded in neighbouring districts and the greatest anxiety was felt for growing crops. Fortunately, however, late rains assisted to mature the crops, and frosts did not come as early as usual, and therefore fair average crops, of cereals were reaped. Locusts did not do much damage to this district.

Many burghers of the Orange Free State applied for and received free licenses to exchange their products for Basutoland grain. These people bring in stock and waggon loads of salt, poles, &c., and barter these goods to the Basuto for grain.

This privilege, which is allowed to burghers of the Orange Free State in connexion with the Customs Union, is very much in favour with them and the natives, though the system is detrimental to traders in the territory who pay licenses.

Owing to a case of supposed rinderpest in Harrismith district, Orange Free State, the usual agricultural show was not held, Government deeming it inadvisable to bring cattle together.

I attach a return of the number of licenses granted at the Assistant Commissioner's office.

General traders (shops)	20
Paid hawkers	10
Free hawkers	38

The following is a list of local prices of grain and stock :—

Wheat, 20*s.* per 200 lbs.
Mealies, 17*s.* 6*d.* per 200 lbs.
Oats, 15*s.* per 150 lbs.
Barley, 12*s.* 6*d.* per 150 lbs.
Kaffir corn, 17*s.* per 200 lbs.
Oat hay, 20*s.* per 100 bundles.
Wool, 3½*d.* per lb.
Mohair, 1*s.* per lb.
Basuto tobacco, 6*d.* per lb.
Hides, 3½*d.* per lb.
Horned cattle (slaughter), 80*s.* each.
Sheep, 10*s.* each.
Goats, 6*s.* each.
Basuto ponies, 6*l.* each.

The rainfall for the 12 months ended 30th June, according to a rain gauge at Mafeteng, was 29·78 inches.

7. The main roads and trade routes were maintained in fair order.

Provision was made for the repair and improvement of Government buildings.

8. I inspected, and have furnished a separate report on, 25 Government-aided schools in this district. Religious and educational work is going on under the supervision of the various missionaries, who do much good for the people.

9. I attach the Medical Officer's report on the health of the district. Small-pox was rife during the summer months, but strict quarantining of infected areas and vaccination has had the effect of controlling the disease, only a few cases now exist and these are under observation.

10. The following is a return of passes issued to natives to proceed beyond the borders of Basutoland :—

Seeking employment - - -	6,209
Other purposes - - - -	9,899
Total - -	16,108

11. I append statistics of revenue, which show an improvement on the amount collected last year, viz. :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax - - - -	3,733	0	0
Licenses - - - -	210	0	0
Fines - - - -	105	6	0
Fees of court and office - -	7	13	6
Miscellaneous - - -	201	5	3
Total - -	4,257	4	9

Number of huts on which tax was paid 7,350.
Arrear hut tax collected, 108*l.*

T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner,
Mafeteng.

MOHALES HOEK.

Annual Report, 1895–96.

Since my last annual report the district has undergone little or no change of importance.

The general aspect has been marked by an entire absence of internal dissension and an apparent desire on the part of the people for peace and quiet.

A good deal of anxiety was shown during the early part of the season owing to the continued absence of rain. Crops that were sown and came up, came to a standstill, and for a time great fear was entertained of a complete failure.

In December the much-needed rain fell and caused the wished-for change; but this temporary relief was followed by the appearance of immense swarms of locusts, which covered a large portion of the district and threatened total destruction to all standing crops. Fortunately they did not extend over the whole district. In the parts where the locusts were most numerous the crops were practically destroyed, the people being compelled to reap before the grain was matured and ripe and then a large portion fell a prey to the pest, and what was reaped was of inferior quality.

In those parts where the locusts were less numerous, fair crops were reaped, but the damage done was soon apparent when the people commenced selling, a large portion of the grain being light and of inferior quality.

In July I proceeded to Rouxville with the witnesses in the Lesala gun smuggling case mentioned in my last annual report. The case was heard by Judge (now President) Steyn, and the two prisoners Dan and William Veerster were found guilty and each sentenced to pay a fine of 30*l.*

In September small-pox again made its appearance. Prompt measures were at once taken to enforce isolation and vaccination. A full report on this subject will be found in the Medical Officer's report.

During the heavy rains in the mountains Malebenye reported the loss of 123 head of cattle and 14 horses, all of which perished in the floods.

In February Maphuma Leduma, who escaped from custody at Mafeteng, fled to Griffith Lerothodi, who persistently sheltered him, when the Paramount Chief, acting upon specific instructions from the Acting Resident Commissioner, personally went and arrested

Maphuma and handed him over as directed to Mr. Lagden, Griffith Lerothodi being severely punished for his disloyal conduct.

In March the Acting Resident Commissioner urged the Chiefs to use their endeavours to destroy the young locusts. Many attempts were made and a considerable number killed.

In April Letele and Motsuanakaba informed me that owing to the conduct of Griffith Lerothodi in seizing their lands they intended leaving the district and settling in North Basutoland. I called upon Griffith for an explanation, when he totally denied their statement. Since then I have heard nothing further of the matter, and Letele and Motsuanakaba are still living in their respective wards.

In May, a Tembu, who was charged on a warrant with having committed a murder at Ngamakwe, was arrested by my police, and sent back, under the (Criminal) Fugitive Offenders' Act, to Ngamakwe.

My relations with the Cape Colony and Free State authorities with whom I am officially brought in contact continue to be excellent.

I regret to say that brandy smuggling is still rife, and, owing to the connivance of the Chiefs, it is particularly difficult to effect arrests.

Below will be found a return of patrols performed:—

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled.	Arrests.		
			Liquor Laws.	Pass Laws.	Other Offences.
69	105	Miles. 4,770	1	10	10

As will be seen from the following table, a very small amount of lost or stolen stock was reported from neighbouring States, and all that which was traced into Basutoland was recovered:—

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses - - -	5	3	2	3	2
Cattle - - -	4	—	4	—	4

The following is a return of licenses issued at my office:—

General traders - - - -	14
Paid hawkers - - - -	7
Free hawkers - - - -	10
Dam licenses - - - - -	2

BASUTOLAND. 1895-96.

The number of criminal cases tried in my court during the year was as follows :—

Theft - - - - -	5
Contravening Liquor Laws - - -	1
„ Pass „ - - -	10
Assaulting and resisting police - -	1

There were no civil cases tried.

The following return of passes issued during the year shows an increase of 578 over the previous year :—

Seeking employment - - -	3,431
Other purposes - - - -	2,027
Total - -	5,458

All schools in the district have been inspected and the pupils showed a fair amount of improvement.

The following is a return of revenue collected during the year :—

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax - - - -	3,575	10	0
Licenses - - - -	150	0	0
Fines - - - -	69	4	0
Ferry tolls - - - -	4	17	3
Fees of court or office - -	4	12	6
Miscellaneous - - -	148	15	4
Total - -	3,952	19	1

It will be seen from the above table that there was an increase of 333*l.* of hut tax collected over the previous year.

The number of huts on which tax was paid was 7,121.

Amount of arrear tax collected was 136*l.* 10*s.*

The following are the present ruling prices for produce and stock :—

Wheat, 25*s.* per bag of 200 lbs.
Mealies, 18*s.* per bag of 200 lbs.
Kaffir corn, 18*s.* per bag of 200 lbs.
Oxen, 90*s.* each.
Other cattle, 60*s.* each.
Basuto ponies, from 100*s.* each.
Sheep, from 7*s.* each.
Goats, 6*s.* each.
Fowls, 1*s.* each.

Oats and barley are unobtainable in the district.

J. W. BOWKER,
Assistant Commissioner.

QUTHING.

Annual Report, 1895–6.

General.

The peace of the district has continued undisturbed during the past year.

The efforts of the authorities to deal with the complaints brought against the Chief Nkwebe Letsie by the Chiefs and headmen located by the Cape Government in Quthing during the years 1882–3, appear to have been attended with beneficial results, and the last few months have shown a marked diminution in the friction referred to in former reports.

2. The bad feeling previously reported between the sons of the Tembu Chief Tyali unfortunately still continues unabated. This is due in a large measure to the neglect of the Chief Nkwebe Letsie to deal with, and settle, complaints taken into his courts by the disputants, and should the non-settlement of these matters lead to any serious breach of the peace he will be principally responsible.

3. Several further instances have come to light during the year of Chiefs appropriating stray stock and converting it to their own use instead of sending it to the pound to be advertised. This practice appears to be common, and, as previouslypointed out, it is liable to abuse. Moreover, there is no guarantee that such proceedings may not extend to stock from the adjoining territories

4. The illicit liquor traffic appears to be on the increase in South Basutoland. This may be attributed in part to the bad example set by minor sons of Letsie and other Chiefs, who have been located near the Orange River during the last few years, and partly to the increased facilities given by the granting of canteen licenses in various small townships near the border in the Cape Colony.

Relations with Bordering States.

Amicable intercourse with the neighbouring districts of the Cape Colony and East Griqualand continues as formerly, and several escaped criminals have been given up to justice from both sides of the border line.

Public Works.

Arrangements have been made for supplying the camp with water from a permanent spring on the reserve, and the laying of the pipes for this purpose is nearly completed.

The district roads are in a passable condition, with the exception of the branch road to Ongeluk's Nek, which is in certain parts in a ruinous state.

Burrweed still exists in some places in large quantities, but the efforts made in other parts for its extirpation have been attended with good results. It is noticeable that Chiefs' villages are apt to be strongholds of this weed all through the territory.

Agriculture.

The year has been a trying one for agriculturists, the prolonged drought of the early spring having been followed in January last by extraordinary swarms of locusts, which came in from the West, and destroyed the young crops. They deposited their eggs in this country, and within two months these hatched out and the young broods did great damage in various parts of the district. Efforts were made during April and May to cope with the pest and large numbers of locusts in the hopping stage were destroyed by the natives under Government direction.

The effect of this visitation, apart from the destruction of the crops, has been seriously to affect the condition of live stock in the country, the locusts having eaten out the more nutritious kinds of grass in the pasturage. It is to be feared that numbers of stock will perish from poverty during the winter from this cause.

An agricultural show was held at Moyeni in the month of February, which, as regards the quality of many of the exhibits, was only a partial success. Neither cattle nor horses appear to be so good here as those found in other parts of Basutoland. The sheep and goats shown were of relatively better class. Very little grain of any kind was shown, owing to general scarcity.

The frosts fortunately came late this season and a quantity of Kaffir corn had time to ripen, which early frosts would have destroyed. There is, notwithstanding, a prospect of scarcity of food among the people.

The following schedules show—

1. Revenue collected under various heads.
2. Number of huts on which tax was paid and arrear tax collected.
3. Number of licenses issued.
4. Return of lost stock.
5. Civil and criminal cases tried.
6. Current prices of produce and stock.
7. Return of passes issued.
8. Return of patrols by police.

S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedules.

1. The following is a return of revenue collected :—

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax - - - -	2,295	10	0
Licenses - - - -	433	6	6
Fees of court or office - -	2	13	6
Miscellaneous - - -	74	3	6
Total - -	2,805	13	6

2. The total number of huts on which tax was paid this year is 4,549, and arrear tax amounting to 61*l.* 10*s.* was collected.

3. Number of licenses issued :—

General traders	15
Paid hawkers	2
Free hawkers	5

4. Return of lost stock :—

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses	2	1	1	1	1	
Cattle	75	9	66	9	66	49 recovered in Cape Colony.
Sheep	15	9	6	9	6	

5. The civil and criminal cases tried during the year are as follows :—

Civil cases	4
Assault (common)	1
Assault (with intent, &c.)	5
Contempt of court	1
Theft	12
Contravening Trading Laws	4
„ Liquor Laws	6
„ Pass Laws	21
Resisting police	3
Malicious injury to property	1
Destroying public works	1
Trespass	2
Culpable homicide	1

6. Current prices of produce and stock :—

Mealies, 20*s.* per bag.
Wheat, 25*s.* per bag.
Kaffir corn, 20*s.* per bag.
Horses, 4*l.* to 6*l.* each.
Cattle, 3*l.* to 5*l.* each.
Sheep, 12*s.* to 15*s.* each.
Goats, 5*s.* to 10*s.* each.
Wool, 3½*d.* per lb.
Mohair, 9*d.* per lb.
Forage, 25*s.* to 40*s.* per 100 bundles.

7. The following is a return of passes issued during the year :—

Seeking employment	2,190
Other purposes	2,984
Total	5,174

8. The following is a return of patrols:—

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled.	Arrests.		
			Liquor Laws.	Pass Laws.	Other Offences.
154	244	Miles. 4,849	6	24	23

QACHA'S NEK.

Annual Report, 1895-96.

General.

I am pleased to report that no political difficulties have arisen to disturb the tranquillity of the district during the past year, and a more peaceful state of things could hardly have been desired.

I continue to receive ready assistance from Chiefs and headmen in tracing lost or stolen stock and in the recovering of criminals.

The population of the district is very much on the increase, due principally to immigration. Though no foreign natives are now allowed to settle in the district without first obtaining the permission of Government, there are very few instances where permission has not been granted, and the mountain area is being rapidly filled up by immigrants from Natal and the Cape Colony, who naturally occupy the most suitable ground for cultivation, &c. This, I think, is a pity, as the mountain area would present a fair field for the disposal of the surplus population of the surrounding districts of Basutoland.

Nearly all the thieving which takes place in the district is done by the foreign natives, who act in concert with their friends residing in the neighbouring territories, certain parts of which are veritable dens of thieves.

My relations with the officials of the bordering districts of the Cape Colony and Natal continue to be friendly, and we render one another every assistance in endeavouring to suppress stock thieving, though the want of a strong police force in East Griqualand is much felt, as, when thieves have been once able to cross over the mountains from Basutoland, they can, by employing careful tactics, travel long distances without being observed.

Swarms of flying locusts visited the district during the month of January last, and did considerable damage to the crops. The mealie and Kaffir corn crops, however, recovered, as they were not very far advanced. These locusts before departing laid their eggs,

and locusts in the hopping stage made their appearance in March last. Efforts were made for their destruction with fair success. The survivors have lately attained the flying stage, but I am pleased to report they are dying off, being unable to withstand the cold weather.

Commercial.

No additions have been made to the trading community. The existing trading stations appear to continue to do a good trade. Some of the trading stations in Matatiele district draw a great part of their trade from people living in the district.

The following is a list of average prices paid by traders for produce and live stock during the past year:—

Wheat, 15*s.* per bag.
Mealies, 10*s.* per bag.
Kaffir corn, 15*s.* per bag.
Wool, 3½*d.* per lb.
Mohair, 6*d.* per lb.
Hides, 2*d.* per lb.
Horses, 3*l.* each.
Cattle, 3*l.* each.
Sheep, 8*s.* each.
Goats, 5*s.* each.

Public Works.

The road from this station to Mr. James Cole's shop at Mpitis, mentioned in my last annual report, has been completed by the owner of the above shop at his own cost. The road from here to Matatiele will again soon require attention.

Police.

The police force still continues to do its work satisfactorily, and the health of the men has been very good.

The following is a return of patrols done during the past year:—

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled.	Arrests.		
			Liquor Laws.	Pass Laws.	Other Offences.
70	98	Miles. 6,456	—	3	4

BASUTOLAND. 1895–96.

The following is a list of civil and criminal cases tried in my court during the past year:—

Civil cases	1
Witchcraft	1
Theft	5
Contravening Pass Laws	9
Resisting police	1

RETURN of LOST and STOLEN STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses	18	1	17	3	15	3 reported recovered in Matatiele.
Cattle	4	1	3	1	3	
Sheep and goats	108	—	108	—	108	4 recovered in Matatiele.

Revenue.

The increase of the population before mentioned is naturally followed by an increase of Revenue collected particularly under the heading of Hut Tax.

The following is a return of revenue collected during the past year:—

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	1,215	16	4
Licenses	20	0	0
Fines	16	17	6
Miscellaneous	24	7	0
Total	1,277	0	10

Arrear hut tax collected	54*l.*
Number of huts on which tax was paid	2,333
Number of licenses issued—	
General traders	2
Hawkers	Nil

Agriculture.

On account of drought in the spring and ravages of locusts the yield of crops is considerably below the average.

Passes.

The following is a return of passes issued during the past year:—

Seeking employment	726
Other purposes	2,422
Total	3,148

Medical.

The general state of health of the people of the district has been good.

Small-pox broke out in the village of Maphassa attacking 22 persons, who all recovered except four. By promptly quarantining this village and a few of the surrounding ones, the disease was stamped out and has made no headway; 930 persons have been vaccinated and provided with certificates during the past year.

Education.

There are two Government-aided schools in the district, inspection reports upon which have been sent in.

JNO. T. GRIFFITH,
Sub. Insp., B.M.P.,
Officer in Charge.

PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER.

Annual Report, 1895–1896.

Public Health.

In this section of my report, before reviewing the epidemics which have occurred in Basutoland during the past year, I would call attention to the proclamation of his Excellency the High Commissioner (132/1896) declaring the disease therein denominated "Amaas" to be an infectious disease within the meaning of the Public Health Act of 1883, and take this opportunity of pointing out that during the last two years the medical staff in Basutoland, while recognising the prevalence of a disease resembling, yet quite distinct from, small-pox, have, during this period, in their official reports dealing with outbreaks of small-pox, made no distinction between the two diseases.

It will therefore be understood that in this and other reports already before the Government the term small-pox includes a very large per-centage of cases of the so-called disease "amaas." The mild nature of, and the extremely low mortality which characterises, "amaas" have made the quarantining of such cases an extremely difficult task, the patients and their friends naturally objecting to the inconvenience of quarantine as applied to a disease which, *per se*, appeared to them a trifling ailment not calling for any efforts for prevention.

For your information I append a short comparison of the salient features of "small-pox" and "amaas," from which it will be noted that while possessing many features in common there are sufficient grounds for considering them as really distinct pathological conditions. At the same time the highly infectious and contagious nature of "amaas" renders it very desirable that the same preventive measures should be observed in dealing

with either disease. The more so, since, owing to the similarity in the *appearance* of the eruption in both and their occasional co-existence, the former might inadvertently be allowed to spread if quarantine were not enforced for both diseases. The failure to appreciate this led to a severe epidemic in a part of the Orange Free State bordering on Basutoland, to which source several recent outbreaks in the Maseru and Teyateyaneng districts were traced.

COMPARISON between the Prominent Symptoms of "SMALLPOX" and "AMAAS."

	Small-pox.	Amaas.
Eruption - -	Three well-marked stages recognised, characterised by the development of papules, vesicles, and pustules. The various stages are reached almost simultaneously by the entire eruption.	Vesicular from the beginning. The contents of the vesicles become semi-purulent about the third day. The eruption appears in successive crops so that fresh vesicles are often seen side by side with old scabs.
Scarring - -	More or less deep circular pits; great disfigurement in severe cases.	Scarring rare or at most small linear depressions.
Febrile symptoms -	Initial fever high, and often accompanied by vomiting and severe pain in the back.	General malaise with slight fever; neither vomiting or backache.
Secondary fever -	Generally severe about 10th day.	Convalescence generally established about this period.
Mortality in the unvaccinated.	Invariably high and inversely proportionate to age.	Almost nil and directly proportionate to age, about one per 1,000 in elderly people. Death occurring in young children unknown.
Preventive value of vaccination.	High - - -	Doubtful.

Epidemics.

"Small-pox" was very prevalent in the southern part of Basutoland during the first half of the year, but, with the exception of minor outbreaks in the Quthing district in May, this part of the country has since been practically free of the disease. A few sporadic cases have appeared in the Maseru, Berea, and Leribe districts during the last six months, and in most cases the source of infection was traced to the Orange Free State.

It is satisfactory to be able to report that, owing to the various preventive measures enforced, the territory is now practically free of the disease.

Although, as stated above, vaccination does not appear to afford protection in all cases, and on that account is obnoxious to certain

sections of the people, this measure has been vigorously enforced whenever possible. In addition to those who were provided with certificates to enable them to leave the territory a large number of free vaccinations have been performed, notably in Maama's Ward, where, owing to the encouragement given by the Chief Maama, nearly every inhabitant has been vaccinated.

Syphilis.

This disease still figures largely in the annual returns. Bearing in mind, however, that the native mind fails to realise until too late the contagious nature and serious effects of syphilis, any further marked diminution in the number of cases which come for treatment cannot at present be looked for. My own experience, extending now over a considerable period, is to the effect that, owing to the aid so readily sought and obtained against the ravages of this disease, it has no longer the serious import such as obtained some six years ago. As I remarked in my last report, the severe tertiary manifestations are now rarely met with, and I have lately observed a marked diminution in the number of young children suffering from hereditary syphilis, a fact which speaks for itself.

Leprosy.

It is extremely satisfactory to note that leprosy appears at least to be stationary. No new cases have been brought under the notice of any of the medical officers during the past year, so that there is good ground for assuming that the fears entertained two years ago concerning the spread of leprosy have now no foundation in fact.

Whooping Cough.

The whole country suffered severely from this disease during the summer months, and the mortality among young children was high. Apart from the severity of the disease itself, the little care usually bestowed on children, and the total ignorance of hygiene which prevails, are partly accountable for the high death rate.

No other epidemic calls for comment, and to the improved water supply and sanitation at the different camps may be attributed the entire absence during the past year of such diseases as typhoid fever and diphtheria.

Police.

The health of the police during the past year has been uniformly good.

Hospital and Dispensary Work.

The upward tendency in the number of attendances noticed in my last year's report has been maintained, and it will be seen from the following tables that there has been a marked increase at most stations.

In speaking of the hospital, work I would take this opportunity of calling your attention to the fact that, while being the most

satisfactory and certainly not the least important part of the Medical Officer's duties, it is considerably handicapped by the insufficient accommodation and entire lack of any nursing staff. While recognising the efforts of the Government to provide for the hospitals, so far as in their power lies, I would wish to place on record the fact that "as hospitals" the present establishments are far from being "efficient," nor is it possible with the present means at the disposal of the medical staff to make them such.

In spite of these difficulties 218 in-patients were received and treated, and a large number of surgical operations were performed. There has been an entire absence of cases of surgical fever, which is a matter for congratulation, bearing in mind the adverse conditions under which the many severe surgical operations are performed.

The following tables give the number of attendances, &c., with a comparison with last year's returns, together with a return of the number of people vaccinated:—

TABLE showing NUMBER of PATIENTS treated at the various HOSPITALS and DISPENSARIES.

District.	New Cases.		Subsequent Attendances.		In-Patients.		Total.	
	1894-5.	1895-6.	1894-5.	1895-6.	1894-5.	1895-6.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Quthing - - -	50	820	10	354	*	*	60	1,174
Mohale's Hoek - -	1,584	1,576	189	346	44	34	1,817	1,956
Mafeteng - - -	1,549	1,842	598	630	29	35	2,176	2,507
Maseru - - -	2,154	2,642	499	1,175	78	86	2,731	3,903
Leribe - - -	1,578	2,710	496	356	34	63	2,108	3,129
Grand totals -	6,915	9,590	1,792	2,861	185	218	8,892	12,669

* No hospital at this station.

TABLE showing the NUMBER of PEOPLE VACCINATED during the Year ending 30th June 1896.

Qacha's Nek - - - -	930
Moyeni - - - -	3,364
Mohale's Hoek - - - -	3,955
Mafeteng - - - -	5,586
Maseru - - - -	3,079
Berea - - - - -	3,057
Leribe - - - -	6,272
Butha Buthe - - - -	1,522
Elsewhere, by police and others (estimated)	8,000
Tota - -	35,765

EDW. C. LONG,
Principal Medical Officer.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER, LERIBE, 1895–1896.

The figures given below show the number of attendances at the hospital and dispensary, and the vaccinations performed, during the year ending 30th June 1896 :—

New cases - - - -	2,710
Subsequent attendances - - -	356
Hospital in-patients - - -	63
Vaccinations - - -	6,272

The work done at the dispensary and hospital shows a considerable increase over that of the previous year. The number of patients attending for the first time almost doubles that of the previous months.

Syphilis is still very prevalent in the district, and is the disease affecting a large number of those attending at the dispensary.

Almost 25 per cent. of the new cases were syphilitic. This is not to be taken as showing that the disease is on the increase, for I believe it is being slowly stamped out. The disease is not so virulent as in some parts, and yields readily to suitable treatment. The natives have found this out and attend the dispensary in increasing numbers. Gastric and pulmonary complaints form a large proportion of the cases.

There is an increasing tendency to gout amongst the better-to-do class of natives. Chiefs and headmen are especially liable to this disease, caused, no doubt, by free living and little exercise.

Severe cases are received into hospital, and as the rooms are small only four can conveniently be accommodated at one time. In the course of the year the place has been several times overcrowded. The in-patients numbered 63.

A kitchen store-room has been added to the hospital buildings and has supplied a long-felt want. Prospective improvements to the two hospital rooms will materially increase the utility of the establishment.

The general health of the district has been fair during the year; a number of epidemics, of which one is still in progress, passed over this part of the country.

In June, July, and August mumps were prevalent in the camp and district. The disease was first noticed amongst the prisoners, from whom it spread to the police, and subsequently over the district.

On August 17, small-pox at Mpherane village; a police guard was placed over the village and strict quarantine enforced. The disease was confined to the inhabitants of two huts, and only eight persons caught the disease.

An epidemic of whooping-cough broke out at the beginning of the year and passed up the district and is still prevalent in some parts at the present time

Several sporadic cases of chicken-pox were reported from time to time.

BASUTOLAND. 1895–96.

Diarrhœa was very prevalent at Butha Buthe during the summer and autumn. The water supply was examined and found uncontaminated.

The western portion of this camp is badly supplied with water, and dysentery broke out several times, especially after rains. A polluted well is no doubt the cause. The evil has been remedied by the drying of the well.

The health of the police has been good during the year; 10 men suffered from mumps during the epidemic.

The sanitary condition of the camp has improved. The pan and dry earth system has been partially introduced, and it is hoped that ere long the system will be generally adopted.

An efficient water supply is much wanted. At present there is only one spring supplying the large population in this place, and as it is far away many of the natives use water from more convenient but inferior and polluted sources.

Of the vaccinations 2,643 were done at the dispensary, 1,467 at Peka, 1,522 at Butha Buthe, and 640 by private persons in several parts of the district.

N. M. MACFARLANE,
Medical Officer.

SIR, Mafeteng, June 30, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to report that I commenced my duties as Medical Officer at this station on April 1st of this year.

The dispensary and hospital have been opened almost daily for attendance and reception of patients with exception of period from November 12th, 1895, to January 10th, 1896, when the late Medical Officer was absent on leave. During this period the dispensary was attended for a few days at intervals by the Principal Medical Officer and the Medical Officer of Mohale's Hoek.

The number of patients shows a marked increase over that of the preceding 12 months, especially so when it is remembered that they had little opportunity of attending for about six weeks out of the year.

The following table shows the attendances compared with that of the previous year:—

Class.	1894–95.	1895–96.	Increase.
New cases - - - - -	1,529	1,842	313
Subsequent attendances - -	598	630	32
Hospital - - - - -	29	35	6
Total - -	2,156	2,507	351

The next table gives the attendance of the sexes according to the division of ages most easily distinguished in a rough way. It will be seen that the female members of the community show the largest attendance on the total number of attendances; the males, however, show a larger number under class of children of 12 years and under, as compared with the opposite sex:—

Sex.	Adults.	12 Years and under.	Infants.	Total.
Female - -	643	218	93	954
Male - - -	553	247	88	888
Total - -	1,196	465	181	1,842

Syphilis (as shown in Table I. annexed) is still the disease which shows largest number of attendants, the total for the year being 340, or more than 100 over the next commonest disease, viz., dyspepsia, which shows a total of 227.

Compared with last year the attendance for this disease has increased by nearly a hundred, the figures for preceding 12 months being 249; but although there has been this large increase in numbers of syphilitic attendances, it does not prove a material increase of the disease, as the per-centage attendance for the two years is almost identical, viz., 17·8 per cent. for year ending June 1895 and 17·97 for the present year.

The disease causes more extensive lesions than in Europeans of the lower class, and this is certainly due to want of treatment in the early stages, as when they do come under treatment they respond readily, as a rule, with the result that very extensive indurations and ulcerations rapidly clear and heal. During the time which I have been at this station I have only seen one case of primary and one, or at most, two cases of the secondary form of the disease, all the others being well-marked tertiary or congenital cases. It will be seen from Table II. that the number of syphilitic subsequent attendances is double that of any other class of case, and the per-centage attendance works out as high as 32·05 per cent. or nearly double that for primary attendance; this in itself is very gratifying, but at the same time, if they could be impressed with the necessity of early attendance, I am sure it would save them a great deal of expense and time, and, what is more to their advantage, make them a healthier, stronger, and happier race.

Dyspepsia is the next commonest disease, and appears to be more prevalent when food is plentiful and harvest is being reaped. It will be seen that the per-centage of dyspeptic repeats falls below that for primary attendance.

Of the 52 cases classed under the heading Pulmonary, the majority are of a trivial nature and chiefly seek relief for slight catarrh of the larger bronchi; there have, however, been one or

two cases of broncho-pneumonia in young children and some cases of chronic bronchitis in elderly people; about six cases of phthisis have come under my notice, four of which were of a more or less chronic nature, and might be classed as fibroid. One case, which was that of a girl of 14, living in the camp, developed an acute pneumonic phthisis of one lung and died in about three months, and before death the apex of the other was affected; the other case, which is still under notice, is of a more sub-acute nature.

Diseases of the skin are mostly scabies, eczema, impetigo contagiosa, and tinea versicolor. (Syphilitic skin lesions are classed with syphilis.) Diseases of the nervous system, rheumatism, gonorrhœa, ears, tænia, cardiac, urinary, and female generative organs require no special attention, their prevalence being fairly uniform throughout the year and nothing of interest has attended any of the cases, as far as I am aware.

Epidemics.

On examining Table I. it will be seen that there was a large increase of the number of patients attending for diseases of the eyes during months of February, March, and April. This was due to an outbreak of conjunctivitis, mostly of a catarrhal nature, and which responded fairly rapidly to treatment. Some cases, however, took on a follicular, and in one or two instances a granular, nature and caused some little trouble, but with the exception of one or two cases of the latter variety all have, as far as I know, recovered without any serious defect of vision or other injury to the organ affected.

During summer months diarrhœa became rather frequent, but was chiefly of a lienteric nature, although there were a few cases classed as dysenteric.

Whooping-cough made its appearance in October and still continues, although I think it is lessening in intensity, and as regards numbers attacked it appeared to run hand in hand with ophthalmia as regards the months in which most children were attacked, and some suffered from both diseases at same time.

A few cases of death in weakly children have been brought to my notice as the result of broncho-pneumonia following on or attacking during an attack of whooping-cough, but most of the cases have recovered.

Influenza was present during the spring and early summer, even up to Christmas, since which no cases are recorded in the books.

Hospital.

The hospital attendance numbered 35, or an increase of six over the number of the previous year; of these cases 8 were medical and 27 surgical, and the average number of days in hospital 22½.

The following table gives the sex and ages of the patients admitted into hospital :—

Sex.	Adults.	12 and under.	Totals.
Females - - -	10	2	12
Males - - - -	20	3	23
Total - - -	30	5	35

ANALYSIS of MEDICAL CASES, with RESULT of TREATMENT shown.

Disease.	Females.	Males.	Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.	Died.	Still in.
Hepatic tumour - -	—	2	—	—	2	—	—
Enterica - - -	1	1	1	—	—	1	—
Hemiplegia - - -	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Progressive muscular atrophy.	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Chorea - - -	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Phthisis - - -	—	1	—	—	—	—	1

ANALYSIS of SURGICAL CASES treated, with RESULTS.

Disease.	Females.	Males.	Cured.	Relieved.	No Relief.	Died.	Still in.
Abscess - - -	1	4	2	1	—	1	1
Accidents - - -	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
Syphilis - - -	2	1	1	2	—	—	—
Cysts - - - -	4	—	4	—	—	—	—
Eyes - - - -	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
Ruptured perinæum -	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stricture - - -	—	3	3	—	—	—	—
Otitis media - - -	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Fibromata - - -	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Ranula - - -	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Parotid tumour - -	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Vesicular dermatitis -	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Rheumatoid arthritis -	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

In the two previous tables 34 cases are accounted for; the 35th case, which is not tabulated, is one which it appears was admitted to hospital and refused treatment; the disease is not detailed.

The following table will show at a glance the exact result of treatment of cases taken *en bloc*:—

Cured - - -	21, or	59·8 per cent
Improved - - -	4, „	11·4 „
No relief - - -	4, „	11·4 „
Died - - -	2, „	5·7 „
Still in - - -	3, „	8·5 „
Refused treatment - -	1 „	2·8 „
		99·6

Taking into consideration the great difficulties under which treatment is carried out with the class of patients under notice, and the hospital and appliances at one's disposal, I think that this result throws great credit on the late Medical Officer, under whose care the majority of the cases were.

The hospital is certainly appreciated by the natives, especially as a house of refuge for minor ailments; in fact, one could have it full of such cases, but they are certainly a bit chary of entering where any serious surgical operation is required.

Sanitary affairs since my arrival here need no comment, there having been no outbreak of disease traceable to an unsanitary condition of the premises of the European population.

Epidemics.

Before my arrival here I believe there was a good deal of small-pox in the early part of the year; this was, however, almost stamped out by the stringent quarantine and vaccination arrangements of yourself and the late Medical Officer, and what few villages were still in quarantine have since been dealt with.

The epidemics of influenza, whooping cough, and ophthalmia are dealt with under dispensary report.

Vaccination Statistics.

The number of vaccination certificates issued during the last 12 months was 5,586, as compared with 6,207 for the year ending June 30th, 1895; there were also 1,877 free vaccinations for the year 1894–1895, but I am unable to give any idea of the amount of free vaccinations which has taken place during this year, as I can find no record, but presumably there must have been a good deal in connexion with the suppression and prevention of the small-pox epidemics.

Police Detachment.

Since my arrival here the health of the police and their families has been good, there having been no more cases of serious illness among them than among the general public in proportion to their strength.

I have, &c.

The Assistant Commissioner,
Mafeteng.

W. R. NATTLE, M.O.

TABLE I.

TABLE showing TOTAL NUMBER of PATIENTS for each Month and for the Year, and the commonest Diseases for which they sought relief, with Monthly and Annual Per-centages.

Month.	New Cases.	Syphilis.		Dyspepsia.		Pulmonary.		Skin.		Eyes.		Intestinal.		Whooping Cough.		Rheumatism.		Gonorrhœa.		Neurosis.		Ears.		Female Gen. Organs.		Urinary.		Influenza.		Cardiac.		Minor Ailments.	
		Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.
July -	213	59	27·6	21	9·8	23	10·7	16	7·5	4	1·8	4	1·8	–	–	7	3·2	4	1·8	6	2·8	5	2·3	4	1·8	1	4·6	–	–	1	4·6	54	25·3
August -	163	33	20·2	23	14·1	13	7·9	17	10·4	4	2·4	1	·6	–	–	3	1·8	5	3·0	1	6·1	4	2·4	2	1·2	1	6·1	3	1·8	1	6·1	47	28·8
September	155	31	19·9	17	10·9	24	15·4	8	5·1	5	3·2	4	2·5	–	–	2	1·2	7	4·5	5	3·2	3	1·9	4	2·5	7	4·5	5	3·2	4	2·5	29	18·7
October -	130	25	18·2	17	13·0	17	13·0	12	9·2	2	1·5	6	4·6	4	3·07	4	3·0	5	3·8	1	·7	1	·7	2	1·5	3	2·3	1	·7	2	1·5	28	21·5
November	82	9	10·9	5	6·0	4	4·8	8	9·7	–	–	12	14·6	4	4·8	1	1·2	4	4·8	4	4·8	–	–	–	–	1	1·2	10	12·1	–	–	17	20·7
December	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	100·
January -	139	23	17·3	20	14·3	9	6·4	7	5·0	13	6·4	15	10·7	9	6·4	1	·7	1	·7	2	1·4	4	2·8	2	2·8	1	·7	–	–	2	1·4	34	23·4
February -	173	30	16·5	21	12·1	11	6·3	5	2·8	9	7·9	10	5·7	8	4·6	4	2·3	2	1·1	3	1·7	2	1·1	5	3·5	2	1·1	–	–	–	–	38	21·9
March -	198	30	16·8	17	8·5	4	2·0	21	10·6	31	17·9	7	3·5	10	5·0	5	2·5	7	3·5	8	4·0	6	3·0	7	1·7	1	5·0	–	–	2	1·0	58	29·9
April -	225	38	18·9	24	10·6	19	8·4	20	8·8	14	7·7	12	5·3	9	3·9	13	5·7	4	1·7	6	2·6	5	2·2	4	2·0	2	8·8	–	–	1	·4	42	18·6
May -	148	28	15·8	25	16·8	20	13·5	10	6·7	22	9·7	4	2·7	8	5·4	4	2·7	–	–	3	2·0	4	2·7	3	2·7	2	1·3	–	–	1	·6	26	17·5
June -	215	34	18·7	37	17·2	30	13·9	15	6·9	8	5·4	6	2·7	11	5·1	7	3·2	5	2·3	2	·9	5	2·3	6	2·8	2	9·3	–	–	1	·4	39	18·1
Totals	1,842	340	17·9	227	12·1	174	9·5	139	7·5	112	5·61	81	5·01	63	3·5	51	2·5	44	2·5	41	2·2	39	1·9	41	2.18	23	1·3	19	1·6	15	·83	413	22·1

The average per-centage attendance for the year is calculated for eleven months only.

TABLE II.

TABLE showing NUMBER of SUBSEQUENT ATTENDANCES per Month and for whole Year, and the commonest Ailments for which they re-attended, with Monthly and Annual Per-centages.

Month.	Subsequent Attendance.	Syphilis.		Dyspepsia.		Pulmonary.		Skin.		Female Gen. Organs.		Gonorrhœa.		Rheumatics.		Neurosis.		Eyes.		H.C.		Intestines.		Minor.	
		Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.
July -	148	79	53·3	13	8·7	6	4·05	10	6·7	2	1·3	7	4·7	5	3·3	7	4·72	—	—	1	2·56	—	—	19	12·8
August -	52	28	53·7	4	7·6	4	7·6	6	11·5	2	3·8	2	3·8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	11·5
September -	55	25	45·9	3	5·4	11	19·8	3	5·4	—	—	6	10·8	2	3·6	1	1·8	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	7·2
October -	39	10	25·6	3	7·6	9	22·6	1	2·5	—	—	1	2·5	1	2·5	—	—	—	—	1	2·56	—	—	13	33·3
November -	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5·5	1	5·5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	11·0	5	27·5
December -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
January -	54	27	48·5	4	7·4	2	3·7	—	—	—	—	2	3·7	2	3·7	—	—	4	7·4	2	3·7	3	5·5	8	14·8
February -	71	20	28·	13	18·2	3	4·2	2	2·8	4	5·6	1	1·4	2	1·4	1	1·4	1	1·4	3	4·2	2	2·8	19	26·6
March -	66	28	42·2	2	3·02	2	3·02	3	4·5	8	12·08	—	—	2	2·2	4	6·04	2	3·02	2	3·02	1	1·5	12	18·1
April -	59	20	33·8	8	13·5	7	11·8	1	1·6	7	11·83	—	—	2	2·2	2	3·38	2	3·38	3	5·07	2	3·3	5	8·4
May - -	44	8	18·1	17	38·5	3	6·8	—	—	—	—	1	2·2	1	1·4	2	4·5	2	4·5	—	—	—	—	10	22·7
June - -	24	1	4·16	10	41·6	5	20·8	1	4·1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4·16	1	4·16	—	—	5	20·8
Totals -	630	246	32·05	77	13·8	52	9·44	37	8·58	24	3·65	20	2·66	17	2·24	17	1·98	12	2·17	13	1·06	10	2·2	106	18·5

The average per-centage attendance for the year is calculated on eleven months only.

Mohales Hoek, July 1, 1896.

MEDICAL REPORT for the Year ending 30th June 1896, MOHALES HOEK DISTRICT.

Public Health.

Small-pox was rife during the early part of the year in various parts of the district. In the Bataang Ward hardly a village escaped. It has been impossible to obtain reliable statistical information as to the number of cases, or the number of deaths, but there is every reason to suppose that the mortality was extremely small. Every facility for vaccination in the infected areas was given, but comparatively few availed themselves of its protection. The people seemed to have little fear of the disease, and to doubt its true nature.

Except a few cases of influenza and measles, no other epidemic disease has come under my notice.

The general health of the police detachment and of the prisoners in gaol has been excellent.

The Public Dispensary and Hospital.

The attendance during the past year has been somewhat in excess of the previous 12 months. The total number of attendances (exclusive of vaccinations) was 1,922. Of these 1,576 were new cases and 346 subsequent attendances. 1,253 persons paid a sixpenny fee. 3,955 vaccination certificates were issued to persons leaving the territory. 34 persons were treated as in-patients. Syphilis, as usual, figures more largely than it should, one case in every eight being of a syphilitic nature.

The other cases do not call for any special remark.

I have met with no fresh cases of leprosy.

I have, &c.

W. M. EATON, M.B., M.O.

Moyeni, June 30, 1896.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour of forwarding to you a report of the work done in this district during the past year.

Owing to the numerous changes of the medical officers of this district an accurate report is scarcely possible.

The total number of patients treated at the dispensary is 1,174.

Dyspepsia and other minor ailments of the same order form a large proportion of this number.

Syphilis is very prevalent here and does not seem to be on the decrease.

The total number of vaccinations performed is 3,364. Of this number 1,280 were free.

BASUTOLAND. 1895–96.

There have been outbreaks of small-pox at the following villages :—

Date.	Name of Village.	No. of Cases.	Result.
Sept. 1895	Raukadi	13	1 succumbed.
" "	Damana	3	—
" "	Motoli	2	—
" "	Stokne	3	—
Oct. "	Kabi	1	—
Feby. 1896	Moelatse	63	4 succumbed.
" "	Lejoyane	2	—
April "	Piudo	15	—
" "	Matselatsatsa	1	—
May "	Tungala	1	—
" "	Hlothoa	5	1 succumbed.
" "	Mphoto	11	—
June "	Stala	6	1 succumbed.

In each case the village was placed in quarantine and the inhabitants vaccinated.

The health of the police detachment has been good. The sanitary condition of the station is satisfactory and there is now a good supply of water of good quality.

I am, &c.

H. R. FORSTER TOWNE.

To the Assistant Commissioner,
Moyeni.

LBFe '06

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 224.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1896-7.

(For Report for 1895-6, *see* No. 186.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
January, 1898.

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194	Zululand	„
195	Gambia	„
196	Malta	„
197	British New Guinea	1895–96
198	Turks and Caicos Islands	1896
199	Barbados	„
200	Leeward Islands	1895
201	Trinidad and Tobago	1896
202	Gibraltar...	„
203	Fiji (Trade)	„
204	Straits Settlements	1895
205	Do. do.	1896
206	Falkland Islands	„
207	British Honduras	„
208	Sierra Leone	„
209	Grenada	„
210	Hong Kong	„
211	St. Lucia	„
212	St. Vincent	„
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214	Seychelles	„
215	Mauritius	„
216	Cocos—Keeling and Christmas Islands ...	1897
217	Fiji	1896
218	Ceylon	„
219	Lagos	„
220	Gold Coast	„
221	Labuan	„
222	British Guiana	1896–97
223	Rodrigues	1896

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	Solomon Islands.

No. 224.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1895–6, *see* No. 186 of this Series.)

GOVERNOR SIR ALFRED MILNER to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,
Cape Town,
30th September, 1897.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your information, a copy of a despatch from the Acting Resident Commissioner of Basutoland, enclosing the annual reports on the territory for the year to 30th June last.

There appear to have been more than the usual number of disturbances and tribal disputes during the year, and the position of the Government in the matter is still, I fear, not free from anxiety. Many of these disputes have, as in past years, arisen out of the opposition of various factions to the paramountcy of Lerothodi. Information respecting the regrettable action of Lerothodi's sons in connection with the rinderpest fencing has already been communicated to you in despatches from Lord Rosmead and myself, and further interesting details of the progress and settlement of the dispute will be found in this report.

You have also been informed in various despatches of the advance of rinderpest and the present reports explain in greater detail the efforts made by Sir G. Lagden and his officers to combat the disease, which have been attended with a large amount of success.

It is satisfactory to find that the great losses suffered by the Basutos and the restrictions on traffic involved by this visitation have not had a disastrous effect on trade, the returns of which continue to be encouraging.

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BASUTOLAND 1896–7.

No less satisfactory is the fact that the hut tax, the principal source of revenue, was collected without much difficulty in all districts except Berea, the deficit in which appears to have been due more to the laxness of the Chief Masupha and his advisers than to any lack of the means to pay the tax.

On the question of education I am addressing you in a separate despatch.*

While the condition of Basutoland is far from settled, I think that, considering the disturbing effect which the rinderpest necessarily exercises on the native mind, Sir Godfrey Lagden and his subordinates must be congratulated on having got through so trying a year as 1896-7 without any more serious troubles than those which have actually occurred.

I have, &c.,

A. MILNER,
Governor and High Commissioner.

From the ACTING RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, Basutoland, to the HIGH COMMISSIONER, Cape Town.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Basutoland,
August, 1897.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit Your Excellency a Report upon British Basutoland for the year ended 30th June, 1897.

In my report last year I referred to the fact that the late political disquietude in South Africa had caused a wave of restlessness in this territory. This appeared to be quietly subsiding when, from a series of causes, it revived again and events occurred which mark the year under review as one of the most disturbed since the occupation in 1884.

Foremost among the causes was the advent of rinderpest, particulars of which will be dealt with in a separate paragraph. From a political point of view it wrought great havoc in the country, proving how easy it is for sudden impulses to put

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* See Appendix.

otherwise peaceful forces in motion and disturb the national equilibrium. In all native tribes there are those who chafe under any kind of control and readily seize an opportunity to run riot, shake off the fetters, and inflame the masses by alleging some common cause or prophetic alarm.

As the disease approached this country it became necessary to take all possible protective measures to keep it at bay. Amongst other means we had recourse to provision of free zones along the borders, from which it was necessary to remove all cattle. Neighbouring States were concerned to adopt similar methods and at the same time to erect wire fences, to picket armed guards, and to forbid the movement of cattle and people except under specific conditions. The Basuto were thoroughly informed of and affected to appreciate these precautions, which were equally adopted on our side in the public interests. Though Masupha and several other chiefs opposed the proclaimed zones, the Paramount Chief urged that there be no compromise in the matter. They were duly laid down in each district but reluctantly recognised. It is unquestionable that these border precautions warded the disease off for several months. It was, however, an alternative of evils. Unaccustomed to have their cattle thrown back five miles and lose sight of them, to be deprived of milk and fuel within the zone, to lose the benefit of their use for thrashing and transport, a section of the younger chiefs, headed by Lerothodi's own sons, grew fractious and, representing to their people that Government was bent upon making new boundaries and introducing white farmers to the zone, displayed a surly and obstreperous attitude. Considerable bodies of armed men were thrown upon the southern border without reason or notice, threats were freely used towards the Cape Colonial and Free State rinderpest guards, and border relations were for a time much strained. The climax was reached in December, when Makhaola, a junior son of Lerothodi, placed a large armed body of men on the Griqualand East border, obstructed fencing work being executed by the Cape Government, intimidated the workers and guards, and created considerable consternation in Matatiele by their unruly conduct. Our officer, Sub-Inspector J. Griffith, stationed at Qacha's Nek, was also obstructed and menaced in his duty and his communications were cut off.

Upon receipt of Your Excellency's telegram with remonstrances from the Cape Government, I at once proceeded by forced marches to Qacha's Nek, picking up en route three powerful and intelligent sons of Letsie as deputies of the Paramount Chief, who was unable then to ride. On our arrival it became plain that there was very grave unsettlement. Had not Mr. Stanford, the Chief Magistrate of East Griqualand, previously impressed upon his guards and fencers the necessity of being cautious and quiet, in all probability a collision would have ensued. The situation was rendered more grave in consequence of serious

BASUTOLAND 1896-7.

unrest amongst the natives of East Griqualand, who appeared to be coquetting with Makhaola's unruly faction, and the fear of coalition gave rise to apprehension and uneasiness in both territories.

In conjunction with the three chiefs above named, I summoned all those engaged in the disturbance and, after committing to prison four men who were guilty of violence and threats towards Sub-Inspector Griffith, removed Makhaola from the scene to Matsieng in Central Basutoland, until such time as I could deliberate with his father Lerothodi and further investigate matters in presence of leaders of the tribe. Meanwhile the work of fencing proceeded without further friction and border relations assumed their normal status.

The refractory contingent pleaded that, in occupying the border as they had done and in making demonstrations, they were merely carrying out the direct orders of the Paramount Chief, who was supporting the rinderpest regulations. I gathered, however, that in appealing to the people to follow them, the young chiefs had urged that they were alarmed—

(1.) At the fencing which, in the case of Pondoland, had preceded annexation to the Cape.

(2.) The sudden enrolment in Matatiele of several hundred men for the alleged purpose of attacking Basutoland.

(3.) The report that Government was importing loads of ammunition.

(4.) The belief that Basutoland was to be forced open for gold prospecting.

As soon as possible afterwards, a National Pitso was convened at Maseru, of the principal chiefs and councillors in the country. It was fully representative. The Paramount Chief and his three sons were present. The former was in a sullen mood and his sons displayed an arrogant demeanour. After a prolonged investigation, public opinion of the tribe tended to show that it was strongly averse to any complications or intrigues arising from the ill-judged action of Lerothodi's sons, whom it was desirable to curb. In the end it was determined to impose a fine of 100 head of cattle upon those concerned in the Eastern border disturbances, and recommended that the young Chief Makhaola be kept for a time in leading strings at Maseru with definite duties of an educational nature. Lerothodi jibbed at the idea of any restraint being placed upon Makhaola, and his three sons, taking their cue from him, fled from the Pitso in a demonstrative way that led to a panic in the country. Pursuing a defiant course they took up a warlike position near Mafeteng, with a band of turbulent followers, threatening violence to any messengers who approached them and resistance to all overtures. The danger of the situation was aggravated by further threats

directed against European life and property at the village magistracies of Mafeteng and Mohale's Hoek. The principal chiefs repudiated strongly the action of the young chiefs, who shortly gave up in despair their mad career and, on their adherents dispersing, the ill-conceived revolt terminated.

Two or three weeks later the three young chiefs submitted themselves at Maseru, in open Court, tendering humble regrets for their conduct. The fine of 100 cattle was simultaneously paid and Makhaola detained at Matsieng under his father's tutelage.

This submission was humiliating to them and to their respective followers.

Dwarfed in importance to the above events, which hazarded the national peace, but standing out prominently was the tribal opposition of a faction headed by Masupha to the paramountcy of Lerothodi. This opposition has been dwelt upon in a series of previous annual reports. It is the source of most other tribal disputes that agitate the country which, though useful in their way of centering tribal attention upon local affairs, are dangerous in that they might assume large and uncontrollable dimensions. Lord Rosmead's communication that Her Majesty's Government could not tolerate lawless acts and violence had for the time a steadying effect. But natives seem quite unable to fully appreciate warnings for the future when under the influence of ungovernable hate of their own countrymen brought about by interfamily jealousy.

During the year there were several disputes concerning chieftainship over land, though happily unattended with serious fighting. The Chiefs Jonathan, Molapo, and Masupha continue to agitate for entire independence of the Paramount Chief in their own districts, and their action gives rise to various minor quarrels. Lerothodi, on the other hand, is not gifted with largeness of mind enough to be generous in his dealings towards subordinate chiefs, incurring much animosity by premature attempts to force the authority of his own young sons upon other chiefs who enjoy settlements made for them by his predecessors. It is the custom of the tribe that the chief son of the reigning house shall in due time be established or placed. The moment for so doing however requires to be well chosen and the process gradual. Moreover, now that the land is all taken up, the location of heirs apparent can only be provided for by displacement or cheerful acceptance, each prospect offering manifold objections.

4. Some aspects of the rinderpest question have already been alluded to. In August, 1896, by Your Excellency's desire I attended a Conference at Vryburg where representatives from all States in South Africa were present. Thanks to the foresight of the Honourable Mr. Faure in convening this Conference and to

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the valuable information and advice imparted by Dr. Hutcheon, principal Veterinary Surgeon of the Cape Colony, many of those present were able to learn practically the best measures to be adopted in territorial defence against the epidemic. On my return to Basutoland steps were immediately taken, by Conferences of both Europeans and natives, to discuss the matter in all its bearings and to prepare comprehensive schemes and regulations for the stoppage of animal traffic and disinfection of persons at certain ports of entry at any given moment when near approach of the disease required it. These regulations were made public and, by telegraph early in October last, glided successfully into operation. The European community, thoroughly realizing the deadly nature of the disease, afforded Government ready and loyal assistance, though at times the restrictions pressed hard and inconveniently upon them. The natives, on the other hand, though affecting to be alarmed, almost ridiculed the existence of any disease for which their own native doctors had no specific. Though, taken on the whole, they behaved well when it really struck their cattle, and took their losses philosophically, the initial hesitation proved costly to them. They opposed the zones, fretted under the restrictions to traffic, and irritated the magistrates by saying, if the disease came, it would be introduced by the agency of Government. In spite of many obstacles, the policy of Government was quietly but firmly to stop or regulate all traffic from infected areas. By such means the epidemic was kept out of the country for five months though raging along our border. Then, when it appeared amongst the Bataung of Mohale's Hoek district in March, 1897, Dr. Koch's method of gall inoculation had been discovered and we were ready to apply it. The opposition to inoculation at first was general and marked. When, however, the people found there was no pressure brought upon them and the Paramount Chief and other leaders had witnessed and agreed to suffer the process, the opposition gave way to a demand which we had neither a sufficiency of gall, syringes, or men to supply. We had only one veterinary surgeon—Mr. Armstrong. Guided by the political officers, he got through a lot of work, and before very long nearly all Government officers had become proficient in all that was required. Then, as the disease struck each district, the Assistant Commissioners were prepared to follow up the work of inoculation independently; and they did it well, turning up their sleeves to it as a rule with vigour and success. In this systematic way it is estimated that about 100,000 cattle were inoculated, of which perhaps 70,000 are immunized. Some chiefs, like Masupha and Bereng Letsie, refused it altogether, and have lost almost their entire herds. Their people, being unable or unwilling to dissent from their chiefs, suffered equally. It is probable that losses of this description number over 100,000.

Our present difficulty is that the immunity conferred by one inoculation is said by experts not to last more than three or

four months. This has not yet proved the case in Basutoland. Meanwhile, we are concerting measures for securing further or permanent immunity by serum treatment should there be a recrudescence of the disease.

5. During a year marked by the general paralysis caused by rinderpest and its attendant drawbacks, it is hard to indicate any national progress. Nevertheless it may be construed as a token of enlightenment that the Basuto, having suffered enormous losses of cattle, which constitute their wealth, reconciled themselves with a fortitude worthy of note. They readily adapted themselves to new conditions by using their ponies for ploughing and transport, in many cases turning again to the abandoned hoe rather than groan under the misfortune of being unable to cultivate. Their desire for acquiring money by labour received a check owing to the restrictions placed upon travelling by quarantine regulations. Consequently only 11,778 received passes for this purpose compared with 28,000 in the preceding year. Now that all restrictions are removed they are proceeding to the gold fields in great numbers.

6. In suppressing crime and facilitating the ends of justice the chiefs have as a rule continued to behave reasonably. Though at times the course of administration meets with opposition, the Basutoland Regulations are fairly submitted to and matters affecting foreign affairs are not seriously interfered with.

The liquor traffic during the time the border was closed experienced a lull. Since opening communications however I regret that much illicit trade has followed. It is almost hopeless to suppress this traffic whilst so many border squatters of unscrupulous character carry on the sale at attractive profits. Some licensed canteen-keepers in the Orange Free State supply large quantities retailed in bottles, but the Government of that State has made repeated efforts to discountenance and check this illegal sale.

7. Trade returns show a satisfactory increase in imports and exports. The Customs revenue is again a record, amounting to £14,470, which, deducted from £18,000 paid by the Cape, leaves £3,530 as their contribution for the year. It is possible however that store-keepers laid in rather heavier stocks than usual, fearing rinderpest regulations might entail a block in transport.

8. Crops on the whole were remarkably good. There was falling off in wheat due to a heavy spring drought, but Kaffir corn and mealies, though sown late, developed rapidly and matured well. Prices ruled fairly high and taken altogether the producer had a good season. I was compelled again, owing to rinderpest, to stop the holding of agricultural shows which, though comparatively insignificant, are enterprising and useful.

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9. Crime statistics compare very favourably with previous years. There were the usual number of culpable homicides, arising in nearly all cases from over indulgence in Kaffir beer that led to village brawls. The native police, though drawn from and under the influence to some extent of districts chiefs, performed their duties efficiently and well. All stock actually traced into the country as having been stolen from neighbouring territories was recovered and the thieves brought to justice.

10. The public health generally was good. A few fever epidemics prevailed without any serious mortality. There was much reason to fear that the presence of many thousands of rinderpest carcases strewed over the veldt must result in heavy sickness more especially as the meat was nearly always consumed. But these anticipations have not so far been fulfilled. Efforts were made to have these carcases buried or destroyed. The ground however was proved too hard to open on any large scale, and shallow graves were undoubtedly worse than open exposure to the desiccating effects of wind and sun.

Hospital and medical work is dealt with in the reports of Medical Officers and continue to be usefully maintained. Dr. Long calls special attention to the great prevalence amongst the European population of nerve complaints, which he ascribes principally to high altitude and extremes of temperature.

11. Though the general revenue was slightly in excess of the previous year, Hut Tax was a little under. This was due to arrears in the Berea District where the Assistant Commissioner invariably experiences great difficulty in getting the Chief Masupha to fulfil the fiscal duties discharged by other responsible chiefs. Masupha's personal allowance has been reduced in consequence; but he seems unwilling to take up the work entrusted to him as a part of the common system. With this exception Hut Tax shows nearly everywhere else an increase proportionate to the growth of population. There were arrears in Mohale's Hoek, but, on enquiry, I find that rinderpest work accounts for it rather than unwillingness to pay.

12. The work of education was obstructed also on account of rinderpest. At times whole villages and even clans were cut off from the school system. Yet the gross returns of average attendance show an upward tendency.

The various mission societies continue to carry on with success their hard and meritorious efforts on behalf of education and religion, giving prominence to the value and necessity of labour and industry.

13. In closing this Report, which is stamped by the mark of "Rinderpest," I beg to bear special testimony to the good work, as a body, of the officers of the Administration. By the exercise

of much occasional forbearance, of tact, and energy they contributed largely to the successful passage through an embarrassing year.

I have, &c.,

G. Y. LAGDEN,
Acting Resident Commissioner.

His Exellency
The High Commissioner, &c.,
South Africa.

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ACTING GOVERNMENT SECRETARY.

Finance.

The Revenue of Basutoland, during the year ended 30th June, 1897, was :—

	£	s.	d.
Colonial Contribution	18,000	0	0
Hut Tax	22,810	5	0
Post Office Revenue	1,341	18	3
Licences	1,465	0	0
Fines	601	2	0
Ferry tolls	267	4	6
Fees	42	13	4
Miscellaneous Revenue	1,339	8	1
Total ...	£45,867	11	2

The Hut Tax is composed of tax paid for the year under report, £21,992 15*s.*; and arrears of tax, £817 10*s.* There is a slight falling off in the amount of tax collected as compared with the tax paid during the previous year, viz., £22,966 6*s.* 4*d.*, caused by the deficiency in Berea and Mohale's Hoek Districts. All other districts have exceeded the amount of their previous year's collections.

Considerable expenditure has been necessitated under the head of rinderpest by the measures which have been taken to guard and quarantine the border, and to organise and carry out a system of inoculation thoughout the country. This extraordinary expenditure, amounting to £5,478, has been a serious drain upon

the resources of the Administration and has permitted of a refund to the Cape Government of £99 3*s.* 10*d.* only.

Trade.

The Customs returns for the twelve months ended 31st March, 1897, show that dutiable goods were imported into Basutoland during that period as follows :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
From the Cape Colony...	64,130	0	0
Through the Orange Free State ...	71,430	0	0
Total	£135,560	0	0

Similar returns for the previous year showed an amount of dutiable goods imported of £104,858. There has thus been, notwithstanding restrictions upon traffic, a very considerable increase in the amount of imports, which may perhaps be partly accounted for by the desire of traders to stock their stores before transport should become altogether improcurable, and partly by the augumented purchasing power of the Basuto on account of the good prices obtained for their produce.

Consequent upon the growth of this import trade there has been an increase in the amount of Customs dues credited to Basutoland (as a territory within the Customs Union) and paid to the Cape Government in reduction of the amount contributed to the Basutoland revenue. The following are the Customs thus earned :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
On goods imported from the Cape Colony ...	6,917	16	0
„ „ through the Orange Free State	7,553	3	6
Total	£14,470	19	6

The amount thus actually contributed by the Cape Government is less than £3,500. It is necessary again to notice that there is a large amount of border trade done with the Basuto, by the numerous stores on the border, within the Orange Free State. There is no means of ascertaining with exactitude the amount of this trade, nor is it included in the above figures.

The following is a comparative return of exports and values for the two years ending 31st December, 1895, and 31st December, 1896, respectively. As these returns do not include the period from March to June, 1897, during which the destruction of the transport cattle by rinderpest took place, it is not possible to gather from them the effect which the ravages of the disease will have upon the export of produce from Basutoland, nor are we

in a position yet to fully realize the economical results of the losses which the country has sustained.

Articles.	Year ended 31 December, 1895.				Year ended 31 December, 1896.			
	Quantity.	Value.			Quantity.	Value.		
		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Wheat (muids) ...	151,077	74,475	4	0	47,482	45,111	19	0
Mealies „ ...	82,429	33,857	9	8	99,975	75,522	5	6
Kaffir corn „ ...	3,681	1,675	14	6	9,920	8,605	14	1
Meal „ ...	4,037	4,529	0	0	1,767	2,520	10	0
Mealie meal „ ...	1,361	832	14	0	600	554	11	0
Wool (lbs) ...	1,116,999	15,988	0	2	1,048,133	14,200	12	1
Mohair „ ...	83,657	3,499	7	2	68,023	3,147	12	3
Cattle	427	1,348	5	6	917	3,684	10	0
Horses	409	1,964	19	6	964	6,383	2	6
Miscellaneous ...	—	1,325	1	5	—	546	3	9
Totals ...	—	139,495	15	11	—	160,277	0	2

The above exports were thus divided :—

	£	s.	d.
To the Cape Colony	41,605	0	1
To the Orange Free State ...	118,672	0	1
Total ...	£160,277	0	2

Licences to trade within the country were issued to 141 general traders, and 47 hawkers. There were also issued 62 free hawkers' licences to residents in the Orange Free State.

Meteorological and Agricultural.

The following results have been obtained by observations taken at the various stations.

Average rainfall	37½ inches.
Daily range of temperature (approximate)	48
Minimum registered	18
Maximum registered	101

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No agricultural shows were again held this year on account of the prevalence of rinderpest. It is difficult to forecast the agricultural prospects for the coming year, but it is pleasing to notice that the Basuto who have lost their ploughing cattle are facing their difficulties with admirable fortitude and are industriously cultivating their lands with hand picks and hoes. It is reported by traders that there has been an enormous demand for these articles.

Labour and Passes.

The following table, showing the passes issued during the past year and the two previous years, reveals a remarkable falling off in the number of natives who have left the territory in search of work. This is, of course, attributable to the prohibition as to the movements of natives through the Orange Free State. The roads are now again open to the Basuto who may wish to seek work at Johannesburg or in other directions, but the restrictions upon traffic which have for several months been necessarily enforced must have seriously reduced the amount of cash which has been brought into the country, which will probably be only too apparent during the coming year.

Return of Passes.

1894–95.			1895–96.			1896–97.		
Labour.	Other purposes.	Total.	Labour.	Other purposes.	Total.	Labour.	Other purposes.	Total.
25,384	37,495	62,879	28,115	41,286	69,401	11,778	19,521	31,299

Police and Crime.

The following is the strength of the Police force :—

European officers	9
European constables	10
Native officers	6
Native non-commissioned officers ...	16
Native privates	204
Total ...	245

Return of Police work :—

Number of patrols	1,493
Number of men engaged	2,693
Estimated distance travelled ...	... 74,208 miles.
Arrests for Liquor Laws	44
Arrests for Pass Laws...	77
Arrests for other offences	119

More patrolling has been done than during the previous year, but fewer arrests have been made. It is obvious that the quarantine regulations enforced both in Basutoland and the neighbouring territories have tended to check all border irregularities. The return of criminal convictions shows (as might be expected) a decrease in the number of offences against Pass Laws and Liquor Laws and a number of convictions for breaches of the Rinderpest Quarantine Regulations.

Assault	16
Customs Laws (Breach of)	1
Contempt of Court	11
Fraud	1
Culpable Homicide	9
Liquor Laws (Breach of)	37
Rape	3
Pass Laws (Breach of)	60
Resisting Police	8
Theft	50
Trading Regulations (Breach of) ...	6
Other offences	79
Rinderpest Rules (Breach of)	102
Total ...	383
Civil cases	31

The return of stock lost and recovered shows that all lost stock definitely reported as having been traced into Basutoland has been recovered.

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not Traced.	Recovered.	Not Recovered.
Horses ...	79	35	44	43	36
Cattle... ...	119	15	104	23	96
Sheep and goats	334	62	272	64	270

Postal and Telegraphic.

This Department of the Administration shows an increase both in the amount of work done and in the receipts. The returns show an increase of 40,000 in the number of letters, papers, post-cards, bookpackets, &c. sent out of Basutoland and an increase of 20,000 in the number of letters received.

I have the honour to submit the following reports for the past year :—

The Assistant Commissioner		Leribe
,,	,,	Berea
,,	,,	Maseru
,,	,,	Mafeteng
,,	,,	Mohale's Hoek
,,	,,	Quthing
,,	,,	Qacha's Nek
The Officer in Charge	...	Butha Buthe
The Principal Medical Officer		Maseru
The Medical Officer	...	Leribe
,, ,,	...	Mafeteng
,, ,,	...	Mohale's Hoek

H. C. SLOLEY,
Acting Government Secretary.

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LERIBE DISTRICT.

The peace of the district has remained undisturbed during the past year, and, though various causes of dispute which still exist between the different chiefs become from time to time more or less acute, the political situation remains much as it was. The relationship between Letsika and Jonathan has, I think, undergone a change for the better, while that between Peete and Seshopi is probably more strained, and the same may be said of the situation at Butha Buthe between Joel and Tlasoa. It is, however, satisfactory to note that, notwithstanding these causes of friction, there has been no actual breach of the peace, and that the tendency of aggrieved chieftains to rush to arms and raid each others cattle, which at one time was so marked, has given place to an evident desire to stand well with the authorities.

The crisis caused by Lerothodi's sons last summer was, of course, not without its effect here. Chiefs and people were anxious and uneasy, and there was a good deal of warlike preparation going on. I do not think, however, that the Leribe chiefs, except possibly the Peete section of the Ramanella clan, were much in sympathy with Lerothodi's sons, or that any of them would have taken part in a rebellion had one broken out.

The question of mountain pasturage for the Leribe people alluded to in my last report remains still unsettled, and while it so remains there is not much chance of a satisfactory understanding between Lerothodi and Jonathan.

The revenue for the year under report is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	5,519	10	0
Licences	412	0	0
Fines	99	0	6
Fees	2	5	6
Miscellaneous	329	15	9
Total ..	£6,362	11	9

Arrear Hut Tax amounted to £243, of which sum more than half was collected at Butha Buthe. Tax was paid on 10,675 huts.

Licences issued during the year were :—

General traders	40
Paid hawkers	22
Free hawkers	7

Crops have been abundant, but owing to the scarcity, one almost might say the absence, of transport caused by rinderpest, they represent little or no purchasing power. This, of course, will not be without its effect on the Customs receipts.

The current prices paid to natives are at present approximately :—

Wheat	20*s.* per muid
Mealies	6*s.* „
Kaffir corn	8*s.* „
Forage	20*s.* per 100 bundles
Cattle	unsaleable
Sheep and goats	12*s.* each
Horses	£10 to £20 each.

These figures have been furnished by local traders. Those against mealies and Kaffir corn must only be regarded as

potential rates. As a matter of fact, very little is being bought at all, for the reasons stated above. So little wheat is produced in the district that what there is still commands a price.

I subjoin a return of patrols performed by Police during the year. Since the closing of the border in October last the strain upon all ranks has been very severe.

Number of patrols	354
Number of men employed	523
Distance covered	2,200 miles
Arrests for Liquor Laws	6
Arrests for Pass Laws	29
Arrests for other offences	18

Relationship with neighbouring States continues to be of a friendly nature.

The following is a list of cases tried in my Court during the year :—

Civil actions	11
Theft	22
Assault	2
Contravention Liquor Laws	9
Contravention Pass Laws	24
Contravention Rinderpest Laws	10
Culpable Homicide	3
Resisting Police	1
Contempt of Court	1
Housebreaking	1
Bribery	1
Sodomy	1
Minor offences	52

The number of Passes issued are :—

Seeking employment	2140
Other purposes	6249
Total	8389

NOTE.—During the greater portion of the year natives have not been allowed to travel in the Free State.

The following table shows the result of action taken in the matter of tracing and recovering lost or stolen stock.

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not Traced.	Recovered.	Not Recovered.
Horses ...	18	12	6	12	6
Cattle ...	14	3	11	3	11

Two stolen horses are now in custody, but until the case is heard it is not known whether they are among those reported. Should they be so the numbers would read recovered 14, not recovered 4.

Rinderpest broke out in this district early in November at Fobane Mountain and Monyamaneng Valley almost simultaneously. The cattle infected belonged to one man, a headman named Lethlatsa, whose village is at Fobane, and whose cattle post is at Monyamaneng. Both places were strictly quarantined and a policeman and a man of Jonathan's placed in charge. All egress or ingress to either place was strictly prohibited. The quarantine thus imposed was well carried out and for three months there was no spread of the disease outside these areas. At Fobane it died out; about 120 cattle having died and 25 salted. The quarantine was however maintained until it was possible to burn the grass in the neighbourhood, and then, all remains of dead cattle having been buried, the place was declared open. There were not many remains to dispose of, so this work was easy at this place. Most of the dead cattle were eaten by the quarantined villagers without their having suffered from any illness as far as I can hear.

At Monyamaneng the case was different. There are no villages there and the only people about there were a few herd boys. The carcases were collected periodically and burned. There is plenty of wood there and with the help of a good quantity of paraffin the work was effectually done. 1,020 cattle died at Monyamaneng out of which number 94 "salted;" 11 are reported as not having taken the disease though among sick cattle all the time, but I am assured by the Veterinary Surgeon that this is impossible and that they probably had the disease in a very mild form.

From November to March there was no spread of rinderpest from these two places, and on the 11th March it broke out at Koaki's in the Ramanella ward. The same policy was pursued there as at Fobane, viz.:—that of rigid quarantine, with a policeman in charge. There was no spread from the infected area and on May 26th the disease died out; 125 cattle died and 4 salted.

On the 15th June rinderpest broke out at Seshope's and up to now 120 have died. The disease is still raging there. On May 24th Ntebele's village became infected and the disease was stamped out by Jonathan, upon his own responsibility, shooting all the sick cattle and driving those not affected into the quarantined area at Monyamaneng.

During the last few weeks in June the disease got the upper hand and spread like wildfire, probably from Berea District, and

since then I have not been able to collect trustworthy statistics but will do so as soon as possible.

Inoculation according to the Koch method has now been adopted, but it is premature to say whether it has been successful or otherwise.

I attach reports by the officer in charge at Butha Buthe and the Medical Officer Leribe.

J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

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BEREA DISTRICT.

On the 2nd February, 1897, I resumed charge of the district from Sub-Inspector W. Boxwell, who had been acting in my absence on duty at Maseru.

Early in July, 1896, the Resident Commissioner went to Mosalomane to look into some claims put forward by Masupha to the detriment of Peete. The line between these chiefs had already been plainly defined, but Masupha sought to reopen the question. The Resident Commissioner, while he upheld the existing line, suggested that Peete by an amicable arrangement between the two chiefs should lend gardens to those of Masupha's people who needed them. Masupha was not satisfied with this and expressed his intention of going up and rectifying the line to suit himself. He, however, listened to reason and nothing lately has been heard of his claim.

Peete was at the same time informed that he must not attempt to set up as an independent chief; that he had local jurisdiction in his own ward but was responsible to Masupha in all matters affecting the welfare of the district.

It may be remarked here that to this habit of Peete ignoring all chiefs but the Paramount may be traced many of the worries and anxieties to which he is continually subjected.

Masupha, though quite willing to acquire more power himself, is naturally unwilling to see his undoubted rights curtailed. Could Peete consent to take his proper position among the

chiefs he would undoubtedly find his lines cast in much more pleasant places than they are at present.

About the same time a question arose which was watched with interest as a test case. A man named Ramphale who had been eaten up by Thebe Masupha on a charge of witchcraft, after taking his complaint to the native chiefs, appealed to the Assistant Commissioner. The Resident Commissioner on being referred to insisted on the cattle being returned. After some delay they were reluctantly handed to the complainant.

Throughout the latter part of December and early in January persistent rumours were rife to the effect that trouble would arise with the Free State at the New Year on some part of the border. None arose on the Berea section, but the behaviour of the sons of Lerothodi during January caused intense excitement throughout the district. The whole talk of the people was "war" and the usual friendly politeness of the natives to white people was changed to an attitude of semi-contemptuous insolence. This continued till the middle of February, when the aspect of affairs having changed elsewhere, matters quieted down and gradually returned to their usual condition.

At this time I received numerous complaints from Masupha and Peete to the effect that each of them ignored the judgments of the other, and that in cases where their respective followers were concerned justice was practically at a standstill. This state still continues and is, of course, another outcome of Peete's line of conduct referred to above.

Early in May a rather serious riot occurred between Peete and one of his dependent headmen named Lejaha. Lejaha has taken up the same attitude towards Peete as Peete has towards Masupha. Guns were used but fortunately no casualties occurred, though in the village of Tsiami a man of Lejaha's was looted. Peete reported to Lerothodi and Lejaha to Masupha, each thus ignoring his proper channel of complaint, and as nothing could be arranged I was directed to hear the case with Marthinus Masupha. The result showed both sides in the wrong and a fine of about fifty cattle was imposed.

A few weeks ago Masupha suddenly preferred a claim to some lands belonging to Leshuburu on the grounds that Moshesh had given them to him many years ago, and he now wished to resume. The case is still sub judice and it is therefore perhaps as well to make no remarks upon it.

Liquor is still smuggled in from the Free State, but not, believe, to any very great extent. Three smugglers wer trapped in and near Ladybrand by detectives from this Office. Two convictions were obtained and one absconded before trial.

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Police.

The strength of this detachment of Police is as follows, all mounted :—

1 European Sub-Inspector.
1 European Constable.
1 Native Sergeant.
1 Native Corporal.
1 Native Lance-Corporal.
23 Privates.
28
2 Temporary Privates (Rinderpest).
30

Owing to rinderpest duty the Police here, as elsewhere, have been subjected to a severe strain which they have met most cheerfully and energetically, and I beg to bring their good behaviour to your notice. Their horses, owing to hard work, are at present rather thin but, together with the men, are quite efficient.

Lost Stock.

Little stock has been reported from the Orange Free State as lost. A table is appended :—

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Recovered.	Not Traced.	Not Recovered.	Remarks.
Horses	2	2	2	—	—	
Cattle	15	—	—	15	15	
Sheep	—	—	—	—	—	
Goats	—	—	—	—	—	

Patrols.

The following return shows patrols by the Police for the year, and results :—

Number of patrols	128
Number of men engaged	307
Number of miles covered	11,248
Number of arrests for Liquor Laws	8
Number of arrests for Pass Law	2
Number of arrests for Miscellaneous	15

Passes.

The following return of Passes issued at this Office during 1896–7, as compared with 1895–6, shows how largely the labour market has been affected by the Rinderpest Laws in the Orange Free State and the Transvaal :—

Year.	For Labour.	For other Purposes.	Total.
1895–6	4,715	4,289	9,004
1896–7	1,527	1,562	3,089

Judicial.

I give below the list of cases heard in this Court during the year. The chiefs gave all assistance necessary in the capture of prisoners.

Contravening Pass Laws	2
Contravening Rinderpest Regulations	22
Contravening Liquor Regulations	3
Culpable Homicide	6
Theft	1
Pretended Witchcraft	1
Breach of the Peace	17
Resisting the Police	2
Civil cases	2

Revenue.

I regret to say that Revenue, or rather Hut Tax, shows a lamentable falling off. Hut Tax is £354 10*s.* in arrear of last year, and this deficit can be put down to nothing but Masupha's supineness. He sometimes pleads that his people are emigrating, but though a few have left him, it can only be a few. Year by year Masupha promises to arouse himself and exert his authority, but year by year, as age creeps on him, he allows the tax to be worse and worse paid. There is money and enough in the district, the only thing needed was for the chief to give the word in earnest, and he has not done so. I consider his councillors and elder sons are also greatly to blame for not

reminding him from time to time. Revenue for 1896-7 detail of heads is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	2,496	0	0
Licences	320	12	6
Fees of office	4	2	6
Miscellaneous	17	8	3
Total	£2,838	3	3

Of the above sum of £2,496, Hut Tax arrears amount t £154 10*s*.

Licences.

There are 23 traders licences held in the district. Durin the year there were 12 hawkers licences issued, of whic 7 were paid and 5 were free.

Roads.

The roads are in fair order, but in the present state of thing they are not called upon to carry much traffic.

Relations with Bordering States.

There has been little intercourse between here and the Orang Free State, owing to rinderpest, but where necessary I have received assistance from the border officials.

Rinderpest.

On the 3rd October, 1896, after the National Pitso, it was determined by the Resident Commissioner that a five mile zone should be instituted, free of all cattle, along the Free State border, that the drifts should be stopped, and that only certain ports of entry should be open for goods and passenger traffic.

These ports of entry were to be provided with proper dis- infecting apparatus and buildings. It was not at this time proposed to have a port of entry in Berea District.

On the 6th October, Sub-Inspector Boxwell, who was acting in my absence, marked out the line in conjunction with Martinus Masupha and Leshuburu, who are the border chiefs of the district. Police were stationed at different places on the River Caledon, and the chiefs promised to provide a constant supply of border guards to close the drifts and prevent traffic across the

river. Nothing was done by them, however, and in no one case was assistance afforded the police in the execution of their duty, nor were any guards set.

A week or so later, Masupha having represented the need of a port at Hanger's Drift, Mr. Boxwell was desired to erect the necessary buildings and oven at that drift for disinfection of foot passengers only. Horses and goods were not to be allowed through. This was done, and by the end of October everything was in working order.

Shortly after this, rinderpest broke out at Fobane and Monyameneng, two places in the Leribe District, on the Phutiatsana River, which divides the two districts from each other. The Phutiatsana was therefore closed from the source to the junction with the Caledon, with the exception of two drifts, which were left open for necessary traffic under disinfection.

This outbreak, however, did not spread to Berea and the district remained clean till 30th May.

In January the Resident Commissioner, at the request of Lerothodi and his councillors, reduced the five mile zone to 1000 yards.

At this time, arrangements having been made with the Free State Government that their disinfecting should be done by our staff, and at our stations, the work in disinfecting reapers en route fell very heavy indeed on the men employed.

Although the zone had been kept very fairly clear of cattle since the institution, yet the chiefs were lukewarm, and native low class opinion was distinctly unfavourable to it. The people appeared to distrust the motives of Government, and—living in the present as they do—cared nothing for "future" contingencies in comparison to the "present" discomfort of want of milk and fuel.

In spite of all the police could do people crossed and recrossed, and the 1000 yards zone was broken by Sebolai's own cattle, which drank in the river. As it turned out, however, no harm appears to have been done to Berea by this laxness on the part of border headmen.

In the latter half of May a man came from Thaba-na-Morena with two head of cattle said to have been stolen. He came to the village of Marutuba under Makoadi. On the 30th May cattle were reported dying at the village. I went out and found the disease to be rinderpest; from that moment the disease ran riot over the district, disregarding the spasmodic attempts made by Mamathe and Martinus to institute quarantine lines.

The Chief Masupha is opposed to inoculation, and his people cannot try it until he agrees to it. No consent has at the present moment been given, and the people's cattle are dying literally

by scores each night. The only wards not yet infected are those of Thebe and Peete Lesaoana.

According to returns obtained by a village to village visitation I find that at least 5980 cattle have died of rinderpest in Berea between 30th May and 30th June, 1897.

The only inoculation so far done in this district has been 27 cattle belonging to this camp, of which 7 died and 20 have recovered and are in perfect health.

In some villages the cattle have been actually annihilated, others have suffered less, but I believe that, taking the average of those villages where the disease has run its course, 97 per cent. or 98 per cent. will be found to be the death rate of uninoculated cattle.

In conclusion I would point out the curious anomaly that the Basuto, who are so keenly alive to the necessity of quarantine from infection in the case of smallpox patients, appear utterly unable to realize the risk of infection in this disease, and the necessity for the same or greater precautions being taken to prevent its spread.

L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1896–7.

MASERU DISTRICT.

General.

With the exception of a few garden disputes which crop up annually, and the excitement caused by the action of the sons of Lerothodi upon the occasion of their being reprimanded for their hostile attitude on the border, where steps were being taken to prevent the spread of rinderpest, the district has been peaceful.

Towards the end of September last, all traders in the country were invited to Maseru to discuss with Government and decide upon some action to combat the spread of rinderpest to Basutoland. It was decided to close the border, to establish ports of entry, to erect fumigating and disinfecting stations, and to clear a five mile zone along the border of all cattle. These precautions were submitted to the Basuto at the annual Pitso and met with approval. A native vigilance committee of

five men selected by the chiefs in the district was formed to assist us in guarding the border and in all other work in connection with rinderpest.

Some months afterwards, upon the Chiefs Masupha and Jonathan representing the hardships the people living within the zone were put to by the absence of their stock, and the fact that the ploughing season was on, the five mile zone was reduced to one of a thousand yards.

The closing of the border enabled us to keep out the disease till after Professor Koch's method of inoculation was discovered.

The disease broke out in this district early in May and has spread from kraal to kraal with alarming rapidity; the whole of the ward is now infected. Inoculation was started on the 14th May and continues to be carried on. Very favourable results are obtained with clean herds, a percentage of 70 being rendered immune, while the inoculation of infected cattle is a hopeless task. Some twelve thousand cattle have been inoculated in this district; the work is being done by Europeans and native assistants.

Commercial.

Trade has been brisk and good prices have been paid for grain; wool, hides, &c., were not in demand, the exportation thereof being prohibited by the Free State and Colonial Rinderpest Regulations.

Public Works.

The roads in the district are in fairly good order.

Police.

The district detachment consists of—

Sub-Inspector	1
European Constables	4
Native Sergeants	1
Native Corporals	2
Native Privates	46

who performed the following patrols:—

Number of patrols	249
Number of men engaged	321
Number of miles patrolled	9,025
Arrests for Liquor Laws	Nil
Arrests for Pass Laws	Nil
Arrests for other offences	5

The chiefs in the district render every assistance in the matter of recovering lost and stolen stock reported. The following is a return showing the action taken in the matter of recovering lost or stolen stock :—

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not Traced.	Recovered.	Not Recovered.	Remarks.
Horses	17	5	12	5	12	—
Cattle	37	—	37	—	29	8 recovered in O.F.S.

The following cases were tried in my Court :—

Theft	10
Common assault	3
Contravening Vagrancy Act	1
Contravening Liquor Regulations ...	1
Contravening Rinderpest Regulations ...	6
Contravening Pound Regulations ...	1
Gaol breaking	1
Resisting Police	1
Contravening Master and Servants Act...	1
Contempt of Court	1
Civil actions	12

The presence of police on both sides of the border required for enforcing Rinderpest Regulations accounts for the falling off of the liquor traffic.

Revenue.

The Revenue for the twelve months amounts to—

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	3,905	0	0
Licences	259	0	0
Fines	46	1	0
Ferry tolls	106	9	0
Fees	6	6	0
Miscellaneous	397	7	1
Total	£4,720	3	1

Tax was paid on 7,512 huts. Arrear Tax collected amounts to £149.

Passes.

The following number of Passes were issued :—

Seeking employment	1,919
Other purposes...	1,113
Total	3,032

The issue of passes to natives through or to the Free State was stopped several months ago by desire of the Government of that State. This was done in consequence of Rinderpest Regulations, which forbid the movement of natives about the country.

Licences.

The following Licences were issued during the year :—

General traders	25
Paid hawkers	9
Free hawkers	17

Relations with bordering States continue to be friendly.

The celebration of the Queen's Record Reign took place at Maseru on the 22nd June, and the occasion was demonstrated in a most becoming and fitting manner.

C. GRIFFITHS,
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1896–7.

MAFETENG DISTRICT.

In January the peace of the district was much disturbed by the riotous behaviour of Letsie, Makhaola, and Griffith, sons of the paramount chief Lerothodi Letsie. Makhaola had been arrested and taken to Maseru on a charge of creating disturbance on the East Griqualand border, and fearing punishment, he and his two elder brothers fled to Letsie's village at Dikhoele, Mafeteng District, and for several days their unruly conduct was a menace to this magistracy.

The two eventually submitted themselves to the authority of the Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief, and their cases were dealt with.

Rinderpest spread from the Rouxville District, Orange Free State, and first appeared at Sephapho's, close to Mafeteng, in

blishing company, inc.

March. Stringent measures were at once taken to stamp out the disease by quarantining the infected area; this, however, did not check the progress of the disease, and in a few weeks the plague spread throughout the district.

Dr. Koch's method of inoculation has been tried on about 20,000 cattle with a fair amount of success, and cattle inoculated at the end of March are still alive and healthy. Mortality amongst cattle has been very great, and according to the latest returns 11,000 which were not inoculated died from the disease in this district.

The following is a return of Police patrols during the past year :—

Number of patrols	212
Number of men engaged	621
Estimated distance travelled, miles ...	14,399
Arrests for Liquor Laws	9
Arrests for Pass Laws	9
Arrests for other offences	28

The police detachment at this station, in addition to their ordinary duties, were employed as rinderpest quarantine guards; the men acquitted themselves well and are useful and efficient.

The strength of the detachment is—

1 Sub-Inspector
3 European Constables
1 Native Constable
1 Native Officer
1 Native Sergeant
1 Native Corporal
31 Native Privates.

There have been very few cases of stock theft from neighbouring States as will be seen by the attached table, showing results of action in the matter of tracing lost and stolen stock. Many of the animals not traced were reported by telegram as lost in the Free State, and the officials who reported the loss are now unable to say whether these were subsequently recovered in the Free State by their owners or not.

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not Traced.	Recovered.	Not Recovered.	Remarks.
Horses	5	1	4	1	4	
Cattle	14	6	8	6	8	
Sheep	106	40	66	40	66	

Good average crops of cereals were gathered during the last season, and there is a plentiful supply of food in the district. The outlook for the coming year is most gloomy, because rinderpest has killed off most of the cattle, so very few people will be able to plough.

I attach a return of Licences granted :—

General traders (shops)	23
Paid hawkers	5
Free hawkers	20

The quarantine regulations have prevented hawkers coming into Basutoland as was customary previous to the outbreak of rinderpest.

Local prices of produce have ruled, viz. :—

Mealies	13*s.* per muid
Kaffir corn	17*s.* „
Wheat	20*s.* „
Wool	3*d.* per lb.
Cattle (slaughter)	70*s.* each
Ponies	120*s.* „

I attach a return of civil and criminal cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Civil suits	1
Contravening Liquor Laws	7
Contravening Pass Laws	5
Contravening Rinderpest Regulations ...	40
Theft	2
Assault	1
Forgery	1

Information was laid against five burghers of the Orange Free State for illicit sale of guns, ammunition, and brandy to Basuto, and these persons were prosecuted by their Government in the Orange Free State Courts and convicted of smuggling.

Government buildings are in good repair.

Religious and educational work continues under direction of branches of the various mission societies, of which there are three in this district—viz., Church of England, Paris Evangelical, and Roman Catholic.

I submit the Medical Officer's report on the health of the district. There has been no serious epidemic during the past year.

The public roads were kept in a fair state of repair.

BASUTOLAND 1896-7.

Owing to rinderpest quarantine restrictions in the Orange Free State and other territories, fewer natives went out to work at the great mining centres than in previous years.

I append a table showing the number of Passes issued to natives to leave Basutoland :—

Seeking employment	1,628
Other purposes	3,177
Total ...	4,805

The Revenue collected was :—

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	3,883	0	0
Licences	250	0	0
Fines	56	8	6
Fees of court or office ...	6	11	6
Miscellaneous	193	16	3
Total ...	£4,389	16	3

Number of huts on which tax was paid 7,493.

Arrear Hut Tax collected £136 10*s*.

T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1896-7.

MOHALE'S HOEK DISTRICT.

I would refer to several matters of importance that have occurred in the district since my last annual report.

In July last a good deal of trouble was caused owing to the illicit introduction of liquor into the Baphuti ward from Lady Grey. There is no doubt that the young chief Griffith Lerothodi and Mocheko Letuka, chief of the ward, were both more or less implicated in these nefarious dealings, though no actual proof could be brought against them, owing to the loyalty of their subjects. Several convictions were obtained which in a good measure put a stop to the evil.

About this time some trouble was caused by the Chief Malebanye, who attempted encroachment upon the Government

Reserve, which had hitherto been undisputed; he caused several patches of ground to be ploughed on the Reserve grazing lands and, when remonstrated with, denied that the pieces of ground belonged to the Reserve. This matter was officially reported, and in August the Paramount Chief sent Setha Matete and other representatives, who, together with myself and Sub-Inspector Mansel, speedily adjusted the matter, and, by specific orders of the Resident Commissioner, caused proper beacons to be erected, and all encroaching gardens recently ploughed were condemned.

In this month a fight took place between Smith Poshudi and his brother Maphakela over some disputed gardens. No very serious damage was done, and the matter was settled by Setha Matete, who was sent by the Paramount Chief.

Fine rains fell during the month of August and ploughing was proceeded with by the natives.

In September the Acting Resident Commissioner called all officers and invited all traders to a conference to be held at Maseru, to consider the best means to be adopted for effectually guarding the territory against rinderpest, which was rapidly approaching from the north-west. The meeting was representative, being well attended from all districts; the precautionary measures proposed and afterwards adopted are well known.

In October the Basutoland-Free State border was closed against all traffic, excepting certain ports of entry under fumigating regulations, and though some hesitation was shown by some of the chiefs, instructions were carried out most admirably, much to the credit of both our police and the natives.

In November the usual shout for the collection of Hut Tax was made, and promised well at the beginning, but when I started with the Baphuti, at Mekaling, I was seriously thwarted by the action of Griffith Lerothodi, who placed every obstacle in my way because I had sent to Mocheko as principal chief, and not to him. I reported his conduct to the Resident Commissioner, who happened to be in the district at the time inspecting rinderpest regulations. He ordered me to send at once to inform Griffith of his disapproval of his conduct, that he is not the chief, and must not in any way interfere with the work of the district. This message had the desired effect, as Griffith at once climbed down, apologised, and promised better behaviour.

In December a good deal of excitement was caused by Griffith placing a body of armed men professedly to guard Pathlalla Drift. I rode down and dispersed these men, who had no recognised leader, Griffith purposely avoided a meeting with me. On my return I reported the matter. On the 9th the

BASUTOLAND 1896–7.

Resident Commissioner, on his way to Qacha's Nek, ordered Ntoane to see that no armed men were allowed near the border, as all quarantine regulations would be carried out by officers in command of districts, and did not require interference from Griffith.

On the 18th a Vigilance Committee was appointed to watch the district and report on any sickness that might appear, also to quarantine any suspicious locality, temporarily, if necessary.

In January, heavy rains fell throughout the district, the Cornet Spruit overflowed its banks and a good deal of damage was done by the flood.

On the 15th I received a wire from the Resident Commissioner, sent at the request of the Paramount Chief, asking me to have no communication with his sons, who had behaved in a most disorderly and disrespectful manner at a Pitso held at Maseru. The conduct of the sons of Lerothodi caused considerable excitement throughout the district.

At the end of this month the five mile zone from the Orange Free State border was limited to a thousand yards. Personally I was much against this as we were at the time so seriously menaced by the disease being so near our border.

On the 3rd March I received a letter (express) from the Assistant-Commissioner of Mafeteng informing me that a disease resembling rinderpest had been reported from Sephapho's in this district. I started next morning and met the Assistant-Commissioner Mafeteng, with Mr. Scott of Mafeteng, at Sephapho's. The disease proved to be rinderpest and a quarantine was immediately placed around the infected area. We found 6 head of cattle dead and a large number sick.

The disease spread rapidly in spite of stringent quarantine precautions, and on the 24th a rinderpest camp was formed near the line between Mafeteng and Mohale's Hoek Districts (in the former) for the purpose of trying Dr. Koch's inoculation remedy. The Resident Commissioner personally started the work with two Veterinary Surgeons, Messrs. Robertson and Armstrong, remaining a week in camp until the work was fairly started. He then instructed Mr. Kennan and myself to carry on the work as rapidly and as cautiously as possible.

Some reluctance and a good deal of superstition was at first shown by the natives regarding inoculation, but results soon dispelled this, and inoculation proceeded rapidly and was much in demand.

In the beginning of May, Mr. Kennan and I found that, in consequence of the spread of the disease in the Mafeteng District, it was necessary to form separate camps. Mr. Kennan

and Mr. Robertson left for Mafeteng to form a separate work, whilst Mr. Armstrong and myself remained and carried on the work in this district.

On the 11th I met the Resident Commissioner by appointment at Tsolane and he decided that Mr. Armstrong should proceed and commence work in Quthing, where the disease had broken out, and on the 13th Mr. Armstrong left me.

I was kept very busy up to the 30th, when I moved to Mohale's Hoek side of the Cornet Spruit, after which the desire for inoculation ceased in spite of the continued good results, and no continuous work has since been done, and it is only now that a reaction appears to be setting in, Griffith has applied for it, and informs me that the desire in his neighbourhood is in favour of inoculation.

My relations with adjacent States are most satisfactory.

With exception of cases mentioned in paragraph 1 of this report, illicit traffic has greatly diminished, this may be and probably is owing in a great measure to the fact of the border being so long closed.

The following will show patrols performed in the district during the past year :—

Number of Patrols	167
Number of Men employed	410
Estimated distance travelled, miles ...	18,302
Arrests for Liquor Laws	6
Arrests for Pass Laws	16
Arrests for other offences	39

Return of lost and stolen stock from neighbouring States and territories :—

Stock.	Reported.	Not Traced.	Traced.	Recovered.	Not Recovered.
Horses ...	3	—	3	3	—
Cattle ...	14	8	6	6	8
Sheep ...	79	57	22	22	57

Return of Licences :—

General Traders	13
Hawkers Paid	1
Hawkers Free	2
Dam Licences	2

shing company, inc.

BASUTOLAND 1896–7.

The Schools in the district were not inspected this year owing to the strict Rinderpest Quarantine Regulations.

The following are the criminal cases tried in my Court during the year :—

Assault	2
Theft	3
Contravening Customs Regulations ...	1
Contravening Rinderpest Regulations ...	16
Contravening Liquor Laws	4
Contravening Pass Laws	8

The following table shows the number of Passes issued during the year :—

For Labour	2,263
For other purposes	1,299
Total ...	3,562

Arrear Hut Tax collected amounts to £88 10*s*. Number of huts on which tax was paid 6,778.

Revenue Return.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut Tax	3,447	10	0
Licences	134	0	0
Fines and Ferry Tolls	90	16	6
Fees of court or office ...	2	17	6
Miscellaneous	99	11	3
Total ...	£3,774	15	3

The above table shows a falling off of £178 3*s*. 10*d*., for which the Baposhudi and Baphuti are mostly responsible.

The following are the ruling prices for Basutoland stock and produce :—

Cattle	50*s*.
Ponies	140*s*.
Sheep	14*s*.
Goats	12*s*.
Wheat	15*s*.
Mealies	6*s*.
Kaffir Corn	8*s*.
Oats	11*s*.
Barley	9*s*.

J. W. BOWKER,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT 1896-7.

QUTHING DISTRICT.

1. The peace of the district has been undisturbed during the past year in spite of excitement caused by the unruly conduct of the sons of the Paramount Chief in calling out assemblies of armed men in adjoining districts, which conduct at one time appeared likely to lead to complications with the Cap Colony.

It is perhaps worthy of note that, although the inhabitants of Quthing were in no wise concerned or mixed up in these demonstrations, they were called upon by the Paramount Chief to assist in paying the fine of Makhaola, one of the young chiefs in question. This is a growing practice among the chiefs of the country, and they usually contrive to collect considerably more from their people than is sufficient for the purpose specified.

2. Some attempt has recently been made by the chief of this district, Nkwebe Letsie, to arrange the difference between the Tembu chiefs, sons of Tyali; to which matters reference has been made in former reports. The Chief Tyali, the head of this clan of the Tembu nation, died on the 28th October, 1896, and his eldest son, Stock Tyali, has now charge of the clan,—the "Ama-vundhle."

3. The fencing off of South Basutoland from the Cape Colony, which was undertaken this year, caused some excitement among the natives, some of whom imagined that this was a preliminary to re-annexation by the Cape Colony; in support of which idea they quoted Pondoland as an instance of a country which was first fenced off, and then annexed. In order to dispel suspicion in the native mind, that the fence would encroach on their pasturage along the border, it was found expedient to send a mixed Commission of officials and natives to verify the whole of the Basutoland-East Griqualand border, in company with a Commission appointed by the East Griqualand Government. Similar action was taken with part of the Herschel border, in the upper part of the Telle valley. The Basuto chief of this district took advantage of the latter Commission to renew a claim which had been previously made (and disallowed) to some debateable land near the sources of the Telle River. The advancing of this claim led to an absurd rumour that the Basuto were about to destroy the border fence at this point, but enquiry proved that there was no foundation for the report.

4. Liquor smuggling is still carried on to some extent in spite of all precautions to check it. The facilities which unfortunately exist for the purchase of brandy by natives in neighbouring villages of the Cape Colony offer temptation to liquor runners

from Basutoland to bring it over either for sale or for the chiefs' consumption.

5. A regretable case of suicide, which took place in September, 1896, was found on enquiry to be traceable to the still prevalent belief in witchcraft. The victim, a Tembu woman, threw herself over a high cliff, with her infant child, her mind having become unhinged, from repeated accusations of witchcraft brought against her by her husband's relatives.

6. A practice which requires to be checked is that of extorting evidence or confession of guilt from prisoners by means of torture. There is reason to believe that this method is at times resorted to by the chiefs, when they are desirous of bringing home certain charges to particular persons, and when other means fail. It is important that such a custom should be firmly put down, as, if allowed to exist as a recognised means of obtaining so called "evidence," its possibilities are boundless.

Relations with Bordering States.

1. Cordial intercourse has been maintained with the adjacent territory of East Griqualand, and measures such as the preliminary survey of the boundary and the construction of the border fence were undertaken by the East Griqualand authorities in consultation with the Basutoland Government. 2. Unfortunately this precaution was not taken by the Public Works Department of the Cape Colony when constructing the Barkly East border fence; and in consequence the true boundary has been overstepped in various places to a considerable extent, not, as a rule, to the advantage of this territory.

Agricultural.

1. The year has been an unfortunate one for agriculturists, the first half, from July to December, 1896, being marked by serious scarcity of food among the natives, some of the Tembus especially being reduced to great straits, and the applications to the officials for relief were numerous. The present season's crops both of maize and Kaffir corn, appear to be plentiful.

2. Early in May, 1897, rinderpest was found to have broken out in this district near the Orange River and on the Herschel border. The disease had appeared in Herschel and in the adjacent district of Mohale's Hoek some weeks previously, and although attempts were made to check the removal of stock, &c., they were only temporarily successful, owing to the restless habits of natives, and their natural desire to remove their cattle from the neighbourhood of infection. Inoculation was commenced in the district during May, but after some few thousand were done there was a reaction against the process, and the Basuto preferred

to try certain native remedies, which do not appear to have been attended with good results. During the past week there have been indications of a renewed desire for inoculation.

3. Ploughing operations have commenced early and some of the young wheat looks well. Locusts have not appeared in the district in any numbers during the past year. Horses, sheep, and goats appear to be doing well, although during the summer and autumn some horses died of biliary fever.

Public Works.

1. The main roads are, for the present, in passable order, temporary repairs having been effected. The present contractor has had a hard task with them, owing to the heavy rains in December, 1896, which caused numerous landslips and falls of rock blocking the track. The section of road over Mokochomela Pass, towards Ongeluk's Nek, in the Drakensberg, is now almost impassable for horses, and in parts can only be safely traversed on foot.

2. The improved supply of water furnished by the waterworks at Moyeni appears to have favourably affected the health of the police camp, there having been no cases of typhoid fever there this year. It may become necessary at some future time to employ skilled workmen to refit the pipes, the present service having been laid down by convict labour, and lacking the finish shown in similar works elsewhere in the territory.

3. The whole of the border from the Orange River up the Telle River to its source in the Drakensberg, and thence along the range to the Natal border has been fenced off during the year. This has chiefly been done by the Cape Government as a measure for checking the spread of rinderpest, but the Basutoland-Barkly East section was constructed in pursuance of an arrangement between the respective Governments to share the cost.

Crime and Police.

Certain forms of crime appear to be on the increase, notably shopbreaking, of which a number of cases have occurred during the period under review, the perpetrators of which have so far escaped justice. Much additional work has been thrown on the police in consequence of the spread of rinderpest in the territory, and the force generally has performed its various duties well.

Medical.

There has been no Medical Officer stationed in Quthing for the past six months, and no Medical Report can be furnished.

Trade.

As already stated trade has been seriously interfered with during the last nine months, and the local traders have experienced considerable losses.

Number of Licences issued :—

General traders	15
Paid hawkers	3
Free hawkers	11

Current prices of produce and stock :—

Wheat	20*s.* per bag.
Mealies	5*s.* to 7*s.* „
Kaffir corn	10*s.* „
Horses	£5 to £15 each.
Cattle	£2 to £6 „
Sheep	10*s.* „
Goats	7*s.* „
Wool	3*d.* per lb.
Mohair	9*d.* „
Forage	£1 per 100 bundles.

Revenue.

The following is the Revenue collected during the year :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut Tax	2,326	0	0
Licences	386	11	6
Fees of court or office ...	5	2	6
Miscellaneous	88	5	9
Total ...	£2,805	19	9

Number of huts on which Tax was paid 4,667.

Arrear Tax amounting to £18 10*s.* was collected.

Return of lost stock :—

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not Traced.	Recovered.	Not Recovered.
Horses ...	6	5	1	5	1
Cattle ...	5	—	5	—	5

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The following is a return of Passes issued :—

Seeking employment	1,328
Other purposes...	1,752
Total ...	3,080

The civil and criminal cases tried during the year are as follows :—

Civil cases	5
Assault	2
Theft	5
Contravening Trading Laws	6
Contravening Liquor Laws	13
Contravening Pass Laws	16
Contravening Rinderpest Laws ...	8
Resisting Police	4
Escaping from custody	2
Rape	3

The following is a return of patrols :—

Number of patrols	215
Number of men engaged	272
Estimated distance travelled	7,371 miles.
Arrests for Liquor Laws	9
Arrests for Pass Laws	7
Arrests for other offences	10

S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1896-7.

QACHA'S NEK DISTRICT.

During the latter part of the year 1896 the inhabitants of this district were, in common with the rest of Basutoland, much disturbed by the many absurd rumours, the outcome of their own ignorant and prejudiced imaginations, which were set afloat upon the adoption of quarantine regulations in the endeavour to arrest the advance of rinderpest. In December, when the Cape Government began to fence and guard the East Griqualand-Basutoland border, the people took alarm and Chief Makhaola, son of the Paramount Chief, placed large bodies of armed men upon the border in defiance of orders. These men obstructed and stopped the work of fencing; adopted a most aggressive and

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threatening demeanour towards the Cape guards, in some cases driving them from their posts; and insulted and stopped the officers in charge when on patrol. An officer of this Government—the officer in charge at Qacha's Nek—was also subjected to insult and forcibly deterred from communicating with the Resident Magistrate ot Matatiele, then on the border, and all traffic stopped.

Affairs reached a very grave crisis; the families in East Griqualand flew into laager; and a rebellious uprising of a section of the younger generation of Basuto led by certain irresponsible chiefs, who were strongly suspected of conspiring to this end with a discontented division of the Hlangweni tribe living in East Griqualand was momentarily expected. Happily a collision was averted by the great tact and forbearance displayed by the gentlemen in charge of the guards.

The Resident Commissioner, on receipt of despatches indicating the state of affairs, travelled by forced marches through the mountains, arriving on the scene on December 12th, accompanied by the Assistant Commissioner of Quthing and representative chiefs.

A meeting was at once called and the parties guilty of rioting punished by imprisonment and fine, and the Chief Makhaola withdrawn from the district.

The result of this prompt action has been to secure perfect quiet and peace throughout this district.

A commission consisting of the Assistant Commissioner of Quthing and the Resident Magistrate of Matatiele was appointed to define the boundary for the erection of the wire fence, which has since been completed without any interference.

Trade has naturally been much affected by the quarantine regulations and large quantities of produce are held against the re-establishment of traffic.

The Police detachment at this station is efficient. The following is the result of patrols performed during the twelve months:—

Number of patrols	77
Number of men engaged	92
Estimated distance travelled	7,472 miles
Arrests for Pass Laws	2
Arrests for other offences	3

During the year no civil cases have been heard in this Court. The following is a list of criminal cases tried:—

Theft	7
Contravening Pass Laws	5
Assault	5

A return of lost or stolen stock is given hereunder with results of search made by Police. It is hoped that the fencing of the border will reduce thieving to a minimum, if not stop it wholly.

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not Traced.	Re-covered.	Not re-covered.	Remarks.
Horses ...	18	—	10	8	10	
Cattle ...	17	—	17	—	17	
Sheep ...	3	—	1	2	1	
Goats ...	146	—	146	—	146	

The Revenue of the district shows a slight increase over that of last year as regards Hut Tax and is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	1,232	0	0
Licences...	20	0	0
Fines	2	17	6
Fees	0	2	6
Miscellaneous	3	18	6
Total	£1,258	18	6

Of the Hut Tax the sum of £27 10*s.* represents arrears. The number of huts on which Tax was paid is 2,434.

Very few men have left the district for the purpose of working during the year—probably owing to the restrictions placed upon the movement of natives by the neighbouring territories, owing to the fear of rinderpest. The following passes have been issued :—

Seeking employment	408
Other purposes	1,940
Total	2,348

The maize and Kaffir corn crops have been excellent.

The rinderpest has not, up to date, broken out in this district.

F. ENRAGHT-MOONY,
Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND 1896-7.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1896-7.

SUB-DISTRICT BUTHA BUTHE.

I returned from the Berea District and took over from Mr. Cartwright on the 5th February, 1897.

General.

The state of the ward during the last twelve months has, on the whole, been quiet. There has been a good deal of friction in Letsika's ward which only stopped short of serious fighting. This was chiefly caused by the fact that no one loyally recognised the boundaries made last year by Jonathan Molapo. It is possible that this matter may before long be on a better footing. There has also been great friction between Joel Molapo and his younger brother Hlasoa, which has been going on for the last two years and I see little hope of a speedy end to it. On the 14th May I held a Pitso here, at which Joel and Hlasoa were present, in the hopes of being able to bring about a better understanding between the two brothers, but I fear no good results have followed.

Joel last year granted a considerable addition to the Reserve at this station to be handed over as soon as the crops have all been reaped.

So far, I am glad to say, no case of rinderpest has been reported in this ward.

Revenue.

The amount of Hut Tax has again been in excess of that of any previous year. So also has been the total Revenue :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut Tax	1,605	10	0
Licences	149	15	6
Fees	0	5	0
Miscellaneous	19	6	6
Total	£1,774	17	0

Number of huts on which Tax was paid 3,039. Arrear Hut Tax collected amounted to £138.

Licences.

The following Licences were issued during the year:—

General traders	12
Paid hawkers	15
Free hawkers	2

Lost Stock.

I subjoin a return showing the number of lost or stolen stock reported at this office during the year. I have not been able to ascertain whether any of those not traced to Basutoland were subsequently recovered elsewhere :—

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not Traced.	Recovered.	Not Recovered.	Remarks.
Horses	10	7	3	7	3	
Cattle	3	—	3	—	3	

The following cases were heard in my Court during the year :—

Sodomy	1
Theft	4
Assault	2
Contravening Rinderpest Laws	1
Minor offences	37
Civil cases	2

Very few passes have been issued during the year :—

Seeking employment	565
Other purposes...	2,429
Total	2,994

During the grain season the prices given were about as follows :—

Wheat	18*s.* to 20*s.* per muid.
Mealies	7*s.* per muid.
Kaffir corn	7*s.* „
Horses	£5 to £8 each.
Wool	1*d.* per lb.
Mohair	3*d.* „
Forage	20*s.* per 100 bundles.

Cattle not bought to any extent.

There are at present four schools in this ward receiving Government aid, one is under the Church of England and the others under the French Protestant Mission.

BASUTOLAND 1896-7.

The roads in the ward are now in very good order. Patrols performed by the police are as under :—

Number of patrols	91
Number of men engaged	147
Estimated distance travelled, miles ...	4,191
Arrests for Liquor Laws	6
Arrests for Pass Laws	12
Arrests for other offences	1

W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector B.M.P.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1896-7.

PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER.

Public Health.

Epidemic diseases.—The most satisfactory feature of the past year is the entire freedom from small-pox in the territory. With three-fourths of the inhabitants rendered immune by vaccination, the disease is not likely ever to be such a source of anxiety to the authorities as heretofore.

Typhoid fever, which in previous years has generally been conspicuous by its absence, has during the past year been epidemic in the Maseru, Mohale's Hoek, Berea, and Leribe Districts. The simultaneous appearance of typhoid in so many centres is probably due to the introduction of the disease by natives returning home from Johannesburg and other towns where typhoid has been unusually prevalent. This means of introduction was observed here in Maseru on more than one occasion when men returning from the gold fields attended as out-patients with well marked symptoms of typhoid.

These patients invariably insisted on proceeding to their homes no matter how ill they might be. Fortunately, enteric fever in this country is seldom the serious disease that it is commonly and justly held to be. Here it, in common with some other zymotic diseases, would appear to be greatly modified by climatic conditions. It is the exception to see well-marked enteric symptoms, while many cases simulate malarial fever. There is a well-marked tendency for the attacks to abate on or about the tenth day. The sequelæ are few and insignificant, and recovery is usually rapid and complete. At

the same time, during the recent epidemics there were a sufficient number of severe cases which presented all the classical symptoms of the disease to place the diagnosis beyond doubt. There are still a few sporadic cases cropping up from time to time in the Maseru Reserve, and there is a serious epidemic at Marthinis' village in the Berea District. The presence of so many foci of disease in this country is a most unfortunate circumstance, since the habits of the people are eminently calculated to foster the spread of such a disease as typhoid.

Scurvy.—So seldom is land scurvy observed that the presence of the cases in this country merits a short comment. For some years the medical men in Basutoland have noticed and commented on the occasional presence of symptoms suggestive of scurvy among many of the out-patients, but it was only in the summer of 1896 that undoubted cases of scurvy have come under treatment. The most prominent symptoms were marked anæmia, emaciation, dry skin, and swollen spongy gums, which bled freely at times. In no instance were petechiæ or ecchymoses of the extremities observed, but œdema of the feet and legs was not uncommon. A symptom universally complained of was great aching of the feet and legs; the characteristic foul breath of scurvy was invariably present.

Ophthalmia.—A particularly virulent type of this disease was prevalent throughout the country during the summer months. Usually a comparatively insignificant complaint, the type of disease as observed here last year resembled Egyptian ophthalmia. Europeans were usually prone to the disease, but it was only in natives who neglected to carry out the necessary treatment that any serious lesion was observed. The exceptionally dry and dusty season was probably in part responsible for its wide spread.

No other epidemic calls for particular mention. I would, however, like to call the attention of the Government to the, at first sight, extraordinary frequence of neurasthenic symptoms among the European population. That such should occur in a climate which is justly held to be in high repute may at first sight appear somewhat anomalous. It is, however, capable of a simple and satisfactory explanation. There are three main factors in determining this condition of neurasthenia, two of which are due to climatic and the third to social conditions. The first two are the high altitude of the country and the extreme daily range of temperature. Both of these conditions make large demands on the store of nervous energy. We thus have a condition in which the nervous system has to supply this extra energy in addition to that usually expended by the body under more favourable conditions of existence. The third factor which I referred to as a social one has reference to the isolated life which Europeans necessarily lead in a barbarous State, a life which in

its effect on the nervous system is but a trifle less injurious than the opposite extreme which characterises modern life in European centres.

Syphilis.—As anticipated in my report last year, this disease bulks largely in the annual returns. So long, however, as the inhabitants continue to hold syphilis in the same light estimation that the average European does a simple catarrh, no noticeable diminution in the spread of this disease is to be hoped for.

Leprosy.—The satisfactory condition of affairs in regard to this disease mentioned in my last report is maintained.

Police.—The health of the police force throughout the country has been excellent.

Hospital and Dispensary Work.

The attendances have maintained the high average which was characteristic of last year, in spite of the inconveniences attending travel owing to the Rinderpest Regulations which have been in force. The Maseru Hospital had to be closed in March owing to an outbreak of typhoid fever among the in-patients. The buildings are now put in a more efficient state, which, together with the operating room which is being built in commemoration of Her Majesty' Jubilee, will considerably enhance the usefulness of the institution. The great need of nursing help is keenly felt. It is an impossibility to maintain wards in an aseptic condition without.

Appended are the usual tables showing the attendances at the different stations during the past year, and a comparison with the previous year.

District.	New Cases.		Subsequent Attendances.		In-Patients.		Totals.	
	1895–6	1896–7	1895–6	1896–7	1895–6	1896–7	1895–6	1896–7
Qnthing ...	820	—	354	—	—	—	1,174	—
Mohale's Hoek	1,576	1,469	346	292	34	25	1,956	1,786
Mafeteng ...	1,842	4,046	630	816	35	52	2,507	4,914
Maseru ...	2,642	2,856	1,175	2,087	86	86	3,903	4,943
Leribe ...	2,710	2,040	356	304	63	60	3,129	2,404
	9,590	10,411	2,861	3,499	218	223	12,669	14,047

EDW. C. LONG,
Principal Medical Officer.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1896-7.

MEDICAL OFFICER, LERIBE.

The following table gives the number of attendances at the Dispensary and Hospital, including the vaccinations performed during the year.

New cases	2,040
Subsequent attendances	304
Hospital in-patients	60
Vaccinations	1,150
Total	3,554

General Summary.

Owing to the restrictions placed on natives travelling in the neighbouring territories on account of rinderpest, the returns for vaccination show a great decrease, otherwise the attendance at the Dispensary and Hospital has been well maintained.

Syphilis and gastric complaints as in previous years are still numerous. Of the former 510 or 25 per cent. of the new cases were syphilitic. It is gratifying to note that the disease is not of a serious type. Bronchial catarrh has been prevalent in the camp during the winter months, and it has been observed that the natives who wear European clothing are especially liable to it.

Fifteen cases of epilepsy appeared at the Dispensary during the year. With two exceptions all the cases were in adults, and they attributed the disease to blows on the head. Children also suffer, and from time to time cases come under my notice. The people themselves say that this disease is increasing, as is likewise lunacy. Five cases of the latter were brought to the Hospital during the year, and there are many more cases in the district for whom advice is not sought.

Sixty patients were treated (mostly surgically) in the Hospital and there were 4 deaths, 1 each from phthisis, cirrhosis of liver, chronic articular rheumatism with senility, and erysipelas.

Epidemics.—There was a severe epidemic of measles in the camp during October and November, but no deaths were reported.

During the summer months ophthalmia appeared all over the district and many of the cases were of a severe nature, especially

in children, and owing to the carelessness of the parents, who let the disease run too far before seeking advice, many of them lost their sight or were partially blinded.

Five cases of typhoid fever were seen in February at the village of Khetisa. The village was cleaned and the refuse burnt, and one polluted fountain was filled up. Sporadic cases were reported from time to time from various parts of the district.

As a rule the majority of native villages are dirty and the fountains from which drinking water is drawn are below the village and liable to pollution from the filth above. I have examined many of these fountains and there seems to be no attempt made to keep them clean. Unless attention is paid to this and to the cleanliness of the villages, I fear that typhoid fever will become a scourge in the country.

The health of the police and the prisoners has been good.

Sanitary.—As regards sanitary matters the condition of the camp calls for no special mention. At Butha Buthe camp diarrhœa is endemic during the summer; although the fountains there have been cleansed and other sanitary measures taken, the disease still exists. The police children are the greatest sufferers and it may be that their food is the cause.

NEIL M. MACFARLANE, M.D.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1896–7.

MEDICAL OFFICER, MAFETENG.

I have the honour to submit the following report on the medical work done in the Mafeteng District during the past year. The number of out-patients attending at the Dispensary during the past year has been 4,046. Of these 3,081 were females, 965 were males. Subsequent attendance for repeats were 816.

Dyspepsia is by far the most common malady complained of.

Syphilis is also common. Amongst the above number of cases no less than 411 were syphilitic either in the acquired or congenital form. In nearly all the cases the disease has apparently

been neglected before the tertiary stage is reached. The commonest places in the above cases for its manifestation is on the palate and tonsils.

Several cases of early leprosy have come up for treatment lately.

The number of in-patients treated at the Hospital has been 52; of these 40 were surgical and 12 medical cases.

There have been four deaths.

The sanitary condition of the station appears to be excellent.

In the early part of the year whooping cough was prevalent in the camp, and during the middle and latter parts of the year there has been a severe epidemic of chicken-pox, affecting the children and also the young adults, especially between 18 and 25 years of age.

In the early part of the year vaccination certificates were much in request; but of late, owing to Rinderpest Regulations in the Free State, very few have been required.

The health of the police detachment has been good, though gonorrhœa has been fairly prevalent amongst them.

A. LISLE WEBB,
Medical Officer,
Mafeteng.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1896-7.

MEDICAL OFFICER, MOHALE'S HOEK.

Owing to my having arrived here to take temporary charge during the absence on leave of Dr. Eaton, my report must necessarily be short and lacking in particulars.

As far as I can gather the public health has been good, there being no outbreaks of acute specific diseases of a serious nature. During the spring and early summer there were a few mild cases of influenza and whooping cough.

The eating of rinderpest meat has not, as far as I am aware, caused the consumer any particular discomfort and certainly up to the present any death-dealing malady.

BASUTOLAND 1896–7.

The police detachment has enjoyed good health notwithstanding the effects of extra work during the last few months.

The water supply is a decided improvement on the old system and a great safeguard as regards disease, a plentiful supply being forthcoming for all purposes. It would be a great convenience if it could be laid on to the Hospital and Dispensary, and I do not think the cost would be very much.

The attendance at the public Dispensary has shown a slight decline as compared with last year, viz. :—1,761 as compared with 1,922 for 1895-6. Of these 1,469 were new cases and 292 subsequent attendances.

There were only 1,171 Vaccination Certificates issued as compared with 3,995 for the previous twelve months.

There were 25 cases admitted into the Hospital, most of which were severe cases of syphilis, and of which two died and the remainder were either cured or greatly benefitted.

W. R. NATTLE.
Medical Officer.

APPENDIX.

GOVERNOR SIR ALFRED MILNER to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,
Cape Town,
1st October, 1897.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your information, a copy of a despatch from the Acting Resident Commissioner of Basutoland reporting on the work of Education in that Territory for the year to 30th June last.

This report appears to me to show that, considering the difficulty under which it has been carried on, this work has shown satisfactory progress during the year.

I have, &c.,
A. MILNER,
Governor and High Commissioner.

From the ACTING RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, Basutoland, to the HIGH COMMISSIONER, Cape Town.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Basutoland,
21st September, 1897.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit Your Excellency comparative Education Returns for the year ended 30th June, 1897. It will be observed that there were 153 schools and institutions receiving

Government aid, 8,458 on the school books, and a mean average attendance of 5,827.

Although the nominal roll and mean average attendance reveal satisfactory increases, it can hardly be expected that a year shadowed, as it was, by rinderpest should show much educational progress. The whole country was more or less under quarantine at different times, and no doubt the mortality of cattle depressed the children as well as their parents.

Assistant Commissioners, who are responsible for school inspections, were engaged continually for some months carrying on or superintending inoculation and have not yet been able to complete their inspection reports. From those before me and other investigations, I gather that, in spite of certain heathen opposition, most of the chiefs are desirous of supporting their district schools and of co-operating with the Missionaries who direct them.

My despatch of the 15th February, 1895, dealt with the educational system obtaining. In a further report of the 29th June, 1895, some interesting information was furnished regarding the opinion of Missionaries as to the effect education for past years had apparently produced upon the people.

Our Industrial schools in Basutoland continue to carry on a useful work.

That at Quthing, controlled by the French Protestants, supports 40 lads who are trained in building, carpentering, stone-cutting, blacksmithing, and wagon-building. A few are passed out fairly qualified every year, and turn their attention to wage earning in Basutoland or the neighbouring territories. They are often to be seen employed on independent jobs and their handiwork is to be frequently traced in decently constructed village houses.

The Industrial Institution at Roma embraces a wider area of technical instruction. In addition to the trades above mentioned, about 30 boys are taught turnery, shoemaking, saddlery, tanning, and tailoring.

There is also a Printing School at Morija and a Girls' Industrial School at Thaba Bosigo.

With the exception of a thoroughly well conducted higher school of the French Protestants at Morija, a fourth standard school of the Roman Catholics at Roma, and a small training college of the English Church in Leribe, the scale of teaching is generally rudimentary and suitable to the age and capacity of the children.

Reports of Basuto lads at Lovedale learning trades, at Zonnebloem and Grahamstown, are satisfactory.

In my annual report of last year I alluded to the fact that a sum of £3,184 had been publicly subscribed by the nation at the instance of the Paramount Chief for the purpose of building an Industrial Institution.

In reply to the request for further industrial training, I replied that if the people really desired it they should provide means and make it their own work, in the direction of which Government would gladly co-operate and guide. The sum named is placed on fixed deposit until such time as additional pr mised subscriptions are paid and some form of endowment is guaranteed by those interested.

I have, etc.,

G. Y. LAGDEN,
Acting Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency the High Commissioner, etc.,
South Africa.

P. N. -11 28 589643 F. of C Block 800 X - 11

BASUTOLAND.

COMPARATIVE RETURN OF SCHOOLS IN BASUTOLAND. 1895 AND 1896.

Mission.	1895–6.			1896–7.		
	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars on Books.	Mean Average attendance.	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars on Books.	Mean Average Attendance.
Paris E. M. Society	115	6,815	4,612	121	7,195	4,878
Institutions ...	5	—	—	5	—	—
Roman Catholics	8	413	322	11	473	395
English Church...	11	546	387	11	609	437
Undenominational	2	87	65	2	70	54
Night Schools ...	3	47	21	3	91	43
Training Institutions (Foreign)	—	22	20	—	20	20
	144	7,930	5,427	153	8,458	5,827

EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION.

1895–6.	1896–7.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.
3,869 4 7	3,810 4 7

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

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No. 255.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1897–8.

(For Report for 1896–7, *see* No. 224.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
January, 1899.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
225	Jamaica	1896–97
226	Bechuanaland Protectorate	„
227	Leeward Islands	1896
228	Bermuda	1897
229	Gambia	„
230	Turks and Caicos Islands...	„
231	Barbados	„
232	Lagos	„
233	St. Vincent	„
234	Sierra Leone	„
235	Falkland Islands	„
236	Straits Settlements	„
237	British New Guinea	1896–97
238	Bahamas	1897
239	St. Lucia	„
240	St. Helena	„
241	Trinidad and Tobago	„
242	British Honduras	„
243	Malta	„
244	Fiji	„
245	Hong Kong	„
246	Leeward Islands	„
247	Grenada	„
248	Gibraltar	„
249	Gold Coast	„
250	Mauritius and Rodrigues	„
251	British Solomon Islands	1897–98
252	Seychelles	1897
253	Labuan	„
254	Ceylon	„

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica...	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.

No. 255.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1896-7 *see* No. 224.)

GOVERNOR SIR ALFRED MILNER to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,
Cape Town,
20th September 1898.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit for your information a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland enclosing the Annual Reports on the territory for the year ended 30th June last.

These reports do not appear to require much comment by me, more especially as the principal matters referred to, arising out of the conduct of Masupha, have already been dealt with in separate despatches.

The trade of Basutoland has been seriously affected during the year by drought, rinderpest, and internal disturbances; but it is satisfactory to find that in spite of these calamities the revenue collected has exceeded that of any previous year.

The harvest prospects of the coming year are not very encouraging, but I trust that the early break up of the drought which at present exists may prevent actual scarcity or distress.

I have, &c.,

A. MILNER,
Governor and High Commissioner.

831—800—10/98 Wt 21935 D & S—5 (B)

BASUTOLAND 1897–8.

From the RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, Basutoland, to the HIGH COMMISSIONER, Cape Town.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Basutoland,
5th August 1898.

SIR,

IN transmitting Your Excellency my report and enclosures for the year ended 30th June 1898, I have the honour to state that it has been politically eventful.

Whilst we were struggling hard against the ravages of rinderpest, and had scarcely emerged from the troubles which a section of the tribe, led by Lerothodi's sons, had brought upon the country by arousing superstitious fears concerning inoculation and other preventive measures, a serious disturbance, organised by Masupha, broke out in Berea district, involving the loss of six lives.

For many years these annual reports have revealed the story of vital opposition to the Paramount Chief Lerothodi headed by Masupha, an opposition always passive and sometimes dangerously active. He has sought every opportunity to dispute and impair the paramountcy, at times taking the initiative prominently, at other times supporting those who were put up to play the game. There is good reason to believe that the Berea disturbance was intended by Masupha as a prelude to something greater. Plans were laid for it. Certain chiefs like Maama were looked upon as active adherents; others, whose power was material, as neutrals. But it failed of the development anticipated, for a reason characteristic of the Basuto which marks their discrimination and intelligence.

It is well known that the old chief Moshesh, having constructed the tribe, divided the inheritance amongst his four principal sons, *i.e.*, Letsie, Molapo, Masupha, and Majara. Majara died early, bequeathing his portion to his son Leshoboro. During the "Gun War" of 1880–1881, Masupha acquired prestige and power that enabled him to swallow up certain rights adjoining his own and to encroach at pleasure upon others. The rights of Majara during the minority of Leshoboro offered a fair field, which was taken advantage of. In 1885–1886 the late Paramount Chief Letsie was so incensed at these encroachments that he twice took the offensive with armies—once to protect and redetermine the rights of Ramanella, secondly in support of Leshoboro. My predecessor was associated with both these movements. The respective boundaries were pointed out and duly recorded. Masupha never recognised these settlements. His attitude year after year led to disturbance and conflicts.

In the disturbance under review, the immediate cause was an attempt by Leshoboro, with Lerothodi's moral support, to appropriate land properly awarded to him. This was resisted by Thebe, a restless son of Masupha. Leshoboro adopted questionable tactics in retaliation, sustained a reverse, and bloodshed ensued. Pursuing the constitutional course, I summoned the parties to Maseru for the purpose of dealing with the case in council. Masupha, relying upon the countenance of certain other chiefs disaffected towards Lerothodi, notably Jonathan and Maama, objected to attend the court or to allow his son Thebe to attend.

After exhausting all reasonable means of persuasion, during which process Lerothodi and a large body of chiefs and people were kept loitering at Maseru, I announced to Masupha that the court would sit immediately whether his son, whose presence was required, was present or not. Masupha appeared at once with his son. He came, however, in a demonstrative way, attended by a large body of men whose weapons were, according to later intelligence, concealed beneath their blankets. The case proceeded. The combatant chiefs Thebe and Leshoboro were each found at fault for the bloodshed, were fined, and the boundary records were read out and affirmed in open pitso. Masupha then indulged in angry recrimination with Lerothodi, whom he treated defiantly, and the pitso broke up in some confusion after angry passions had been aroused. The fines were duly paid.

There is no doubt that Masupha calculated upon being able to command such tribal sympathy as would fortify him in resisting the attendance of his son at court, as well as compliance with any order, boundary delimitation, or settlement, not congenial to his own ideas, with which Lerothodi was connected. But the sense of the large tribal council associated with me was emphatic. They refused to aid or encourage Masupha in any action directed against previous judicial settlements. Seeing this, he submitted sullenly to my decisions, at the same time venting his spleen against Lerothodi in no measured language.

Subsequently, Lerothodi, with my approval, supported Leshoboro whilst the latter ploughed the fields he was entitled to, though it entailed the presence in reserve of 1,500 armed men. This occurred in August 1897. It will be seen that the evil day of open opposition on Masupha's part was foreshadowed and only postponed.

Early in December, a junior son of Masupha, named Moiketsi, followed into the Orange Free State a Mosutu woman who had run away from her husband with another man, and, on failing to secure their return to Basutoland quietly, adopted forcible measures of a rough and ready nature, in the execution of which he was apprehended by the Free State authorities, tried, and sentenced there with a band of followers to lashes and imprisonment. He escaped from lawful custody (whether through

BASUTOLAND 1897-8.

carelessness of guards or what) together with another criminal named Maboka, and fled successfully to Basutoland. The Orange Free State applied for extradition. As an escaped convict, Moiketsi might have been liable to surrender under a protocol to the Extradition Treaty signed by the High Commissioner and Acting President of the Orange Free State. But this protocol remained unratified by the Orange Free State Volksraad, and had become for all reciprocal purposes inoperative. His surrender as a convict was therefore refused, and the fact of his being domiciled in Basutoland precluded his surrender, under the provisions of the Treaty regarding domicile, upon any other charge. The other refugee was extraditable upon its appearing that his domicile was the Orange Free State.

The usual course was pursued of sending to Masupha for the arrest of his son, whom it was necessary to place upon trial for prison breaking, under a clause of our regulations providing that "any person domiciled in Basutoland who shall commit any offence in any place out of Basutoland may be dealt with in like manner as if such offence had been committed in Basutoland."

Had Masupha complied the affair would have been a minor one. This was explained to him. He knew it; but he again relied upon the sympathy of other chiefs in what he deemed to be a more popular resistance to authority, and, scenting in Lerothodi's remonstrances a chance of rupture with that chief, refused compliance.

Again recourse was had to all reasonable persuasion but without success. Finally, I had no alternative but, with Your Excellency's sanction, to call upon the Paramount, whose privilege it is to assert in the tribe the authority of the law when directed to do so, and whose prayer it had been to be allowed to do so without foreign help. Lerothodi, who had previously done his best to guide matters into a working channel, responded loyally by calling out his people and assembling them near Thaba Bosigo, were Masupha resided. Before taking any positive action he appealed to the latter through the agency of weighty councillors. Masupha responded by gathering his clans and sympathisers, and retiring to a stronghold overlooking his village adjacent to the Putyatsana river.

It was now clear that armed resistance was intended. The Paramount Chief, who feared the defection of Jonathan and some of his brothers, collected his full strength, anticipating a keen struggle for the supremacy which had been so often threatened. He had acted rightly so far, and I gave him every encouragement and moral support.

At this juncture Masupha, seeing the drift of things, handed over the convict Maboka, saying that was all he intended to do, his idea being that by doing so he would deflect the course of events. The refugee was brought to Maseru on December 30th

and placed in gaol. Simultaneously, Jonathan Molapo, who with a large force had given Masupha confidence while affecting to support Lerothodi, suddenly went home, leaving all parties compromised equally by his presence and retirement. He had neither helped Masupha nor Lerothodi materially, and taught both to mistrust him. He had erred by stultifying his professions in support of law and order, and had unguardedly given hope of help to those in revolt. He had tried to run with the hare and hunt with the hounds—a course in which his betters have failed, and he too in recent times.

On January 3rd Lerothodi made his first demonstrative movement by marching in strength through a part of Masupha's country to the north of Thaba Bosigo.

No serious opposition was offered. On the 7th he occupied Masupha's deserted village and, on advancing towards the latter's stronghold, was fired upon. A general action ensued. Lerothodi lost three killed and five wounded. The first shots were fired by Masupha.

Being now certain that the Paramount Chief had lent himself genuinely to the duty entrusted to him I aided him with a limited amount of ammunition.

Hostilities proceeded. A cordon was gradually drawn round Masupha's stronghold, his supplies and water cut off. The siege was protracted by reason of the inaccessibility of the stronghold, of swollen rivers which prevented communications, and of procrastinating overtures from Masupha. During this period, the number of killed were—on the side of Lerothodi, who attacked in the open, 31; on the side of Masupha, who was mostly behind walls, 24.

On the 17th January Moiketsi was surrendered and brought into Maseru personally by Lerothodi, who was informed that the evacuation of the stronghold by Masupha and the destruction of his late village were regarded as essential conditions of that chief's capitulation. Swollen rivers again delayed matters.

On the 27th January I sent an officer with Lerothodi to see if the conditions were carried out. This officer, Mr. C. Griffith, returned on the 29th January, reporting the destruction of the village and evacuation of the stronghold.

On the 1st February a court was held, my native assessors being almost the entire roll of chiefs and councillors of the nation. Moiketsi was sentenced to 14 months imprisonment. Masupha was deprived of the district chieftainship which had conferred authority over other than his own family. He was forbidden to re-occupy his old village, was fined 200 head of cattle or equivalent, and deprived of certain lands and tenements he had by courtesy enjoyed for many years.

The fine was paid and other orders carried out. A few attempts to evade them met with unconditional negatives by Government and the Paramount Chief.

BASUTOLAND 1897-8.

In chronicling these unhappy events it is to be hoped that good may come out of evil. It was impossible that the system of working through a paramount chief could continue satisfactorily, if the balance of national power was not visibly on his side.

Masupha had courted this balance for years and in the final struggle staked all he knew on it. But he failed, and Lerothodi, for the first time, enjoyed the chieftainship he inherited.

Taken altogether it may be considered that the sense of the nation moved more rapidly than, according to precedent, might have been expected. It has rarely happened that the majority have been led to perceive in time the necessity of coercing a recalcitrant minority, or, having perceived it, have followed it up. Matters must, in order to enter the soul of a tribe, go through the process of circumfusion.

The distances and difficulties of propagation are great. Any electric conception of ideas is as much beyond the compass of their minds as it is beyond the compass of conveyance. Were natives indeed capable of rapid understanding they need not be in their present subordination to civilized thought and government. A sudden ultimatum is calculated to have the effect that shock has upon keener nerves, and to produce the paralysis of desperation that leads to wrong impulses.

While advancing these remarks as a plea for patience in critical dealings with natives, I must gratefully record how much the exercise of patience was fortified by the strength derived from Your Excellency's resolution should all reasonable efforts at adjustment fail. It was no less a strength to me than a manifestation to the natives, who began perhaps to realize for the first time in recent years that constitutional orders would be carried out by force if persuasion failed, and that the advice of the Queen's representative was intended to be obeyed.

For years the Basuto have quarrelled with each other, as they naturally always must do. They have, however, seriously at times disturbed the peace, have been warned that, in view of liability to complications, it could not be tolerated by Her Majesty's Government, and have treated such warnings with composure. They ought now to have learned that such warnings have a meaning.

Whatever advantage may result from late events—and from every point of view the firmer establishment of the Paramount Chief must, with its alternative evils, be deemed of advantage—is therefore due to Your Excellency's determination to insist upon respect for law and order, and to support the Paramount Chief in all constitutional ways. This was the determining factor. It enabled me to give the Paramount the assurance and confidence he required and eventually believed in.

There has been no change in the policy by which the Basuto enjoy a fair measure of self government under certain restrictions. But there has been a change in which Her Majesty's Government has brought home the necessity of taking up its obligations.

Allusion was made in the previous paragraph to certain alternative evils. By this may be understood that the firmer establishment of the Paramount Chief and the tribal power it confers upon him and his sons are elements that have to be reckoned with in future. The predominating power of Lerothodi's family, some of whom are none too wise, cannot be deliberately counterbalanced. Like all native chiefs he and they may soon forget from whom his real power was derived, and may be expected to give the trouble that a shrewder logic would avoid.

Apart from the principal incidents above mentioned there were the usual number of tribal disputes that required treatment, in which the factions submitted themselves happily to quiet settlements by the magistrates or by appeals.

The subject of rinderpest occupied a large portion of last year's report. The disease ran its deadly course through the country, yielding fairly to gall inoculation where accepted, and proving fatal where superstitious objection to it prevailed.

Though we were led to believe that gall immunity would only extend to a few months, the more permanent value of it is so far established, as regards Basutoland, by the fact that there has been no recrudescence of the epidemic for 18 months.

The most attractive feature of the year, which will be marked as an historical landmark, was the visit and enthusiastic reception of Your Excellency in the territory. This visit was regarded from its length and thoroughness as one of great import, inasmuch as the High Commissioner was known not only to have seen the masses and the country, but was seen of many who knew of him only as the emblem of unseen power.

It is almost impossible to indicate from year to year any specific national progress. Individuals display it; there is a demand for technical education, and many natives are to be seen working throughout the country at useful trades which a few years ago only trained white men were capable of.

Lurking behind the veneer of civilization, which consists in a great measure of wearing smart European clothes, there is, of course, deeply rooted superstition that will take generations to eradicate. Reference to the records of a dozen years ago reveal a marked change in the demeanour of chiefs and people generally. Their characteristic energy and desire to become wage earners is illustrated by the returns of passes issued during the 12 months to those in search of foreign labour, which give the number of 30,274 men. This represents more than three-fifths of the male population. Many who go to the mining centres

become handy workmen. At the same time they contract the vices easily acquired from contact with low whites, and learn readily such civilized accomplishments as clever house-breaking and the like. This must be expected.

In co-operating for the suppression of crime and facilitating the ends of justice the chiefs have as a rule behaved well. Though conforming to the regulations, they contravene them by stealthy introduction of liquor and guns whenever they can evade police patrols, which is possible enough along an open 200 mile boundary. So long as an unprincipled class of low whites tempt them by carrying on such trade over the border it is hard to stop it, and harder still to secure convictions, to defeat which both buyers and sellers combine. The borders of all native territories are infested with illicit dealers whose professions offer high profits.

The season's crops were, owing to drought, miserable on the whole. Leribe district alone produced a marketable quantity. In other districts there is scarcity of food which may develop into want if we do not have a good and early spring.

Wheat, which of late years formed a great trade commodity, entirely failed, many having lost even their seed reserve. To remedy this a public spirited movement by the Chamber of Commerce to supply seed met with the hearty co-operation of Government, the result being that over 6,000 bags have been distributed on the easiest practicable terms.

In consequence of the failure of crops, trade suffered materially, as the statistics will show, and the Customs duties fell off proportionately.

It remains to be seen whether the new tariff, if it comes into operation, will sensibly affect Basutoland.

Crime statistics compare favourably with other years. The loss of cattle by rinderpest has probably conduced to more stealing than formerly. Otherwise serious crime is not conspicuous.

Culpable homicides spring rather from undue beer drinking than from malice.

The native police continue to do their work well.

Hospital work, as recorded in the reports of medical officers, is well maintained. The doctors would all be encouraged were it practicable to give them a higher standard of buildings, appliances, and nurses.

The general revenue is in excess of any previous year. Hut tax was well paid, continuing its upward tendency in proportion to the rise of population. Masupha failed in many ways last year. His tax was worse than usual. As a last resource it was necessary to send appointed messengers with the Paramount Chief and collect it summarily in Berea district. This was successful.

Education under the hand of the various Mission Societies progresses favourably. There is no undue attempt to reach unnecessarily high standards, but rather to keep the teaching within useful limits. It is proposed, with Your Excellency's approval, to have an examination of the principal schools by an Inspector kindly lent by the Cape Government.

Missionary enterprise, encompassed as it is by difficulties and re-action, is nevertheless a prominent feature of the country, the French Protestant Society being, as heretofore, highly conspicuous.

I beg to bear hearty testimony to the good service rendered by the Government Secretary and officers of the administration as a body. Their *esprit de corps* and desire to promote the best interests of the country are as commendable as they are valuable.

I have, &c.,

G. Y. LAGDEN,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency the High Commissioner, &c.,
South Africa.

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BASUTOLAND 1897–8.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARY, BASUTOLAND, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1898.

FINANCE.

The revenue collected in Basutoland during the past year is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Colonial contribution ...	18,000	0	0
Hut Tax	23,438	10	0
Post Office	1,619	17	2
Licences	1,506	0	0
Fines	589	8	8
Ferry Tolls	224	3	3
Fees of Court	118	2	10
Miscellaneous	1,059	5	7
Total ...	£46,555	7	6

Of the Hut Tax paid, the amount of £1,267 10*s.* was arrear tax paid by defaulters of previous years. At each collection there are a number of men absent from their homes at the various labour centres and other places. The amount of tax paid for the current year was £22,171, as against £21,750 collected during the previous financial year.

Tax has been paid on 45,236 huts.

A refund to the Cape Government of £1,757 16*s.* 8*d.* has been made. The amount actually contributed by the Cape Government towards Basutoland expenditure therefore stands as follows :—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Drafts paid to Basutoland Government ...				18,000	0	0
Customs Dues on Imports to Basutoland	10,699	19	6			
Refund ...	1,757	16	8			
				12,457	16	2
Net amount of Colonial contribution ...				£5,542	3	10

The total expenditure during the year under report was £44,797 10*s*. 10*d*. This includes the large and abnormal expenditure of £1,375 on rinderpest, and, as Public Works, the cost of a new and commodious gaol at Mafeteng, and a new water supply for Maseru, which promises to meet in a satisfactory manner a much felt public need.

TRADE.

The amount of dutiable goods imported into Basutoland during the year ended 31st March 1898, was—

	£	*s*.	*d*.
From Cape Colony	48,696	0	0
From Orange Free State ...	51,584	0	0
Total ...	£100,280	0	0

The imports of the previous year ended 31st March 1897 amounted to £135,560. It was only to be expected that rinderpest, drought, and internal disturbances would have this effect upon the trade of the country. The Customs Dues credited to Basutoland, (being 85 per cent. of the total duties upon the above Imports) were:—

	£	*s*.	*d*.
By Cape Colony	5,269	12	7
By Orange Free State ...	5,430	6	11
Total ...	£10,699	19	6

The Customs earnings have suffered by the operation of the tariff which came into operation on 1st July 1897, under which the ad valorem rate on imported goods was reduced from 12 to 9 per cent. On the other hand the proposed new tariff, when in operation, may be expected to add considerably to the amount to be credited to Basutoland, woollen and cotton manufactures (upon which the new rate of 20 per cent. is to be imposed) constituting a large proportion of the Basutoland imports.

The following is a comparative return of exports from Basutoland for the year ending 31st December 1895, and for the years ended 30th June 1897 and 30th June 1898. The returns for the two latter years have been compiled for the period covered by our financial year for the purpose of uniform comparison with revenue and other returns.

Articles.	Year ended 31st December 1895.		Year ended 30th June 1897.		Year ended 30th June 1898.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Muids.	£ s. d.	Muids.	£ s. d.	Muids.	£ s. d.
Wheat	151,077	74,475 4 0	58,951	52,599 7 6	19,984	17,450 4 7
Mealies	82,429	33,857 9 8	64,576	42,424 11 0	99,352	52,590 14 3
K. Corn	3,681	1,675 14 6	4,746	4,273 13 3	14,739	8,760 6 0
Meal	4,037	4,529 0 0	1,060	1,663 12 6	1,876	2,813 11 0
Mealie Meal	1,361	832 14 0	40	44 0 0	17	13 0 0
Wool	Lbs. 1,116,999	15,988 0 2	Lbs. 854,879	10,234 0 2	Lbs. 1,992,131	24,989 15 4
Mohair	83,657	3,499 7 2	72,672	2,567 2 2	128,067	4,448 2 2
Cattle	427	1,348 5 6	227	932 5 0	711	3,959 1 0
Horses	409	1,964 19 6	1,336	9,892 19 6	1,986	12,628 12 0
Miscellaneous	—	1,325 1 5	—	279 11 10	—	10,846 0 5
Total	—	139,495 15 11	—	124,911 2 11	—	138,499 6 9

The miscellaneous exports for the last year, amounting to £10,846 0*s.* 5*d.*, consisted principally of hides, a testimony as to the mortality that has taken place among the cattle.

The diminished export of wheat during the past two years is remarkable. The severe drought of last year caused the loss of most of the wheat sown in the spring, and it has been necessary to supplement by Government aid the praiseworthy efforts of the mercantile community to supply the Basuto with seed wheat for the coming year.

Consequent upon the loss of most of the ploughing cattle by rinderpest, it was advisable to encourage the Basuto to use their horses for agricultural work. A number of sets of simple horse harness adapted for this purpose were distributed on loan throughout the country, and the natives have eagerly availed themselves of the privilege, and have thereby been induced to adopt horse ploughing to a considerable extent.

In response to a request, the Director of the Bacteriological Institute at Grahamstown was good enough to supply a quantity of fungus for locust destruction, and whether from this treatment or from the severe cold of the winter, the large swarms of "voetgangers" that were threatening the country have almost entirely disappeared.

Licences to trade were granted to 141 general traders and 74 hawkers. Seventy-five free licences were issued to burghers of the Orange Free State and others for the purpose of permitting them to barter produce and purchase grain for food.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The following are the results of observations carried on at the different stations in the country for the calendar year 1897 :—

Average rainfall	22·23	
Daily range of temperature ...	48	(approximate)
Minimum registered	18	
Maximum registered	99	

LABOUR.

The country has been visited by a number of labour agents employed in recruiting for the various companies at the gold fields. The Basuto, however, appear to prefer, as a rule, to make their own way to Johannesburg, and to engage themselves to employers without the intervention of agents.

Comparative Return of Passes Issued.

—	1895–96.	1896–97.	1897–98.
Labour	28,115	11,778	30,274
Other purposes	41,286	19,521	45,516
Total	69,401	31,299	75,790

POLICE AND CRIME.

The Basutoland Mounted Police consists of—

European officers	10
European constables	8
Native officers	6
Native sergeants	7
Native corporals	9
Native privates	204

who, in addition to much political employment, have done the following police duties :—

Number of patrols	1,085
Estimated distance travelled ...	51,009 miles.
Arrests under Pass Law	129
Arrests under Liquor Law ...	47
Arrests for other offences	60

Return of Criminal Convictions.

Assault	8
Customs Regulations, (breaches of) ...	8
Contempt of court	1
Culpable homicide	10
Escape from custody	5
Fraud	1
Firearms (smuggling)	7
Housebreaking	7
Liquor Laws, (breaches of)	42
Carried forward ...	89

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666 FIFTH AVEN

Brought forward ...	...	89
Pass Laws (breaches of) ...	...	109
Public violence	...	3
Resisting police	...	13
Rape	...	1
Minor offences	...	32
Theft	...	61
Total ...		308
Civil cases heard		37

No floggings were inflicted in Basutoland during the year. 230 prisoners were received into gaol, and 91 remained in gaol on the 30th June 1898.

Return of Lost Stock Reported.

Stock.	Reported lost.	Definitely traced to Basuto-land.	Not so traced.	Re-covered.	Not re-covered.
Horses	76	40	36	43	33
Cattle	58	35	23	34	24
Sheep and goats	1,188	34	1,154	34	1,154

In some cases the stock reported as lost, but not traced into Basutoland, has been subsequently reported as recovered in neighbouring territories.

POSTAL AND TELEGRAPHIC.

The Postal Revenue for the year was £1,619 17*s.* 2*d.*

The following figures are extracted from records kept and from returns for the year furnished by the courtesy of the Postmaster General, Cape Town :—

Letters posted in Basutoland ...		150,875
Post cards		4,137
Newspapers		25,800
Book and sample packets		8,009
Parcels		2,456
Total ...		191,277

ishing company, inc.
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Letters received	138,708
Post cards „	4,347
Newspapers	53,575
Book and sample packets	14,028
Parcels	5,376
Total ...	216,034

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Money Orders issued	7,307	16	5
Money Orders paid	4,383	19	1
Deposits in savings bank ...	1,443	4	11
Withdrawals „ ...	564	17	3

Telegraph messages sent (Maseru and Mafeteng) ...	5,059
Telegraph messages received ...	4,374

I have the honour to submit the Reports of the following officers :—

The Assistant Commissioner, Leribe.
The Officer in Charge, Butha Buthe.
The Medical Officer, Leribe.
The Assistant Commissioner, Berea.
The Assistant Commissioner, Maseru.
The Principal Medical Officer, Maseru.
The Assistant Commissioner, Mafeteng.
The Medical Officer, Mafeteng.
The Assistant Commissioner, Mohale's Hoek.
The Medical Officer, Mohale's Hoek.
The Assistant Commissioner, Quthing.
The Medical Officer, Quthing.
The Acting Assistant Commissioner, Qacha's Nek.

H. C. SLOLEY,
Government Secretary.

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ANNUAL REPORT, 1897-8.—LERIBE DISTRICT.

The past year has been an eventful one for this district owing to the Masupha disturbance in January.

The chief Jonathan was then called out by the Paramount Chief to assist in vindicating the authority of the law. He went, but at a critical moment returned home leaving the work incomplete, and by his defection aggravated the trouble, as no doubt thereby he indirectly encouraged Masupha in his resistance. The Paramount Chief showed his very natural resentment in the usual native way. Threatening letters and messages were sent by him to Jonathan, and orders were sent to Jonathan's younger brothers and other minor chiefs in his district to disregard his authority, and report their matters direct to the Paramount Chief. Rumours were industriously circulated to the effect that Jonathan intended to help Masupha, and certain chiefs in this district, disaffected to Jonathan, excused themselves from helping Lerothodi by saying that if they did Jonathan would fall upon them. These rumours and excuses I knew to be quite without foundation, and indeed the sequel showed them to be so. Jonathan deserted the Paramount Chief when he had great need of him in the Government Service, and therein he was very blameworthy, but his fault ended there. He gave many excuses for his defection, but the true reasons were probably a sort of sentimental veneration for Masupha, who is his father-in-law as well as his uncle, and distrust of Lerothodi caused by unredressed grievances, the principal ones being probably the cattle post questions which have been alluded to in Leribe Annual Reports for several years by my predecessors and by me, and which are still unredressed.

In March, Jonathan sent humble messages of apology to Lerothodi, in which he confessed his fault, and, so to speak, threw himself on the mercy of the court, and the very light fine of ten head of cattle was inflicted upon him by Lerothodi. The fine was paid, and accepted in professedly final settlement of the matter. The intriguing, however, still continued, and towards the end of May it took an alarming shape. There is in this district a small chief called Motsweni. He is the eldest son of Jonathan's eldest brother Joseph who, owing to his being a lunatic, has never been in a position of authority.

Motsweni, therefore, by his birth should be chief of Leribe, and I believe was in his infancy indicated by Moshesh as the future Paramount Chief of Basutoland. His character, however, is such as to render him quite impossible for the position, and this was fully recognised by the late chiefs Letsie and Molaypo.

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Without being absolutely mad like his father he is very weak-minded. In his normal condition he can speak and act reasonably enough, but if he is in the slightest degree checked, or if anything is said or done that he does not like, he at once loses all control over himself.

To this man Lerothodi addressed a letter harmless enough in itself, if rather injudicious, considering to whom it was addressed, instructing him to stand between Jonathan and anyone whom he was oppressing, and inform him and the court about it.

On the strength of this letter, Motsweni gathered all the malcontents in the district around him, who, of course, were quite ready to use him for their own purposes, and proclaimed himself chief over Leribe. A dangerous cabal was formed and reports of their doings, no doubt in many cases exaggerated, caused grave anxiety in the district, and might very well have led Jonathan into committing himself with Government by taking up arms. This no doubt was just what those who started these intrigues wanted, but I am happy to say that, acting on my advice, he kept quiet, and, though very much provoked, contented himself with reporting matters and rumours to me as they occurred or came to his knowledge.

Finally, Lerothodi and Jonathan were called together by the Resident Commissioner and a *modus vivendi* arrived at between them. Jonathan wants to place out his son Tau, and in this he requires Lerothodi's support; indeed he cannot do without it. I hope he is wise enough to see this.

An understanding having been arrived at between Lerothodi and Jonathan, I was able to bring about the collapse of the local conspiracy by securing the withdrawal of Joel and Khetisa from it, so that the outlook for next year is considerably better than it was.

Affairs at Makhoakhoeng are in much the same state as they were last year, the cause being probably that Lerothodi and Jonathan have never been in accord. It is Lerothodi's way of showing Jonathan that he cannot do without him.

One case of "eating up" by chief Tlasoa was brought to my notice. I called him before me, and on his failing to show sufficient cause for his action I ordered restitution to be made, which has now taken place.

I attach a return of revenue in this district. The Hut Tax was paid well, and shows an increase on last year.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut Tax	5,625	0	0
Licences	457	0	0
Fines	99	11	6
Fees of court	4	16	6
Miscellaneous	128	1	3
Total ...	£6,314	9	3

The amount of arrear Hut Tax collected is £234 10*s*. has been paid on 10,936 huts.

There are forty-three licensed general traders in the district. Forty-one hawkers' licences have been issued, of which twelve were free.

I append a return showing the results of action taken in the matter of tracing and recovering lost stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	21	19	2	19	2
Cattle	13	11	2	10	2
Sheep	3	3	—	3	—

It will be noted that in every case except one where stock has been traced to Basutoland it has been recovered. The exception was a case in which a stolen cow had been slaughtered by the thief.

The following is a list of cases tried in my court :—

Civil actions	9
Theft	16
Housebreaking	3
Infanticide	1
Homicide	3
Fraud	1
Escape	1
Resisting police	11
Contravening Pass Law	67
Contravening Customs Regulations ...	3
Contravening Liquor Regulations ...	6
Contravening Law relating to Firearms	6

The harvest was scanty, but, still, in this district there was a crop, and I do not anticipate any famine. Indeed, grain in considerable quantities is being exported to the districts where crops have entirely failed.

The following is a list of prices paid for produce :—

Wheat ...	...	...	25*s.* per bag.
Mealies ...	...	...	12*s.* „
Kafir corn	...	...	14*s.* „
Ponies ...	...	...	£4 to £10 each.
Cattle ...	...	...	£3 to £7 „
Sheep ...	...	...	15*s.* to 20*s.* „
Goats ...	...	...	10*s.* to 20*s.* „
Wool ...	...	...	3*d.* per lb.
Mohair ...	...	...	8*d.* per lb.
Forage ...	...	...	25*s.* to 30*s.* per 100 bundles.

The wheat crop of Leribe has up to now been inconsiderable, but this year a large quantity of seed wheat has been issued to natives on credit by an arrangement between Government and the Chamber of Commerce which, if the crop is successful, should add greatly to the purchasing power of the people. 20,332 passes have been issued during the year, of which 7,505 were to persons in search of work.

The following is a return of patrols performed by my police :—

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men.	Miles travelled.	Arrests.		
			Contravening Liquor Regulations.	Contravening Pass Regulations.	Other Offences.
387	586	12,406	6	57	15

I attach a report from the officer in charge at Butha-Buthe.

Relations with the officials of the Orange Free State continue to be of a friendly nature.

J. C. MACGREGOR.

Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1897-8.—BUTHA-BUTHE SUB-DISTRICT.

I took over the duties of this district on the 2nd June 1898. On looking over the records of the past year, I find that the usual disturbances have taken place in Letsika's ward.

In July a dispute arose between Letuma and Malekopa, and arms were taken up, but fortunately no damage was done. Letuma was proved to be the aggressor, and he and some of his men were fined.

Dijo was building a village last March near the Phakoeng Hill, without having first obtained the permission of the chief Letsika, who despatched armed men to burn the huts, and a general fight occurred. Dijo was driven away, and fortunately there were no casualties. The case was tried by the Assistant Commissioner, and Letsika and Dijo were both fined 10 head of cattle.

Rinderpest broke out in this district last July and decimated the large cattle herds. The chief Joel was against inoculating at first, but afterwards consented, and every effort was made to carry on the inoculation, but without very good results, as nearly all the cattle herds became infected.

Large swarms of locusts appeared early in January, but did very little damage in this district.

AGRICULTURE.

The crops of mealies and kafir corn are very fair considering the severe drought we have experienced, and that most of the cattle have been swept off. In some places ploughing has been done with horses. The wheat crop was a failure.

TRADE.

There are sixteen trading stations in this district, and licences for five others have lately been applied for. Trade has been bad during the past year.

EDUCATION.

There are three Government-aided schools in this ward.

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax...	1,580	0	0
Licences	177	0	0
Fines	15	4	0
Fees	0	11	6
Miscellaneous	5	0	0
Total ...	£1,777	15	6

Arrear Hut Tax amounting to £76 has been paid. Tax was paid on 3,059 huts.

LICENCES.

General traders	16
Hawkers (paid)	15
Hawkers (free)	2

RETURN OF LOST STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	13	13	—	13	—
Cattle	4	4	—	4	—
Sheep	3	3	—	3	—

CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES TRIED DURING THE YEAR.

Civil cases...	3
Theft	9
Housebreaking	1
Infanticide...	1
Escaping from custody	1
Contravention Pass Laws	18
Contravention Custom Regulations ...	1

CURRENT PRICES OF PRODUCE AND STOCK.

Wheat	£1 5*s.* per muid.
Mealies	12*s.* „
Kafir corn	14*s.* „
Horses...	£4 to £10.
Cattle	£3 to £7.
Goats	15*s.* to 26*s.*
Wool	3*d.* per lb.
Mohair	8*d.* „
Forage...	25*s.* to 30*s.* per 100 bundles.

RETURN OF PASSES ISSUED.

Seeking work	2,224
Other purposes...	4,932
Total ...	7,156

RETURN OF PATROLS.

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men.	No. of Miles.	Arrests.		
			Contravening Pass Law.	Contravening Liquor Regulations.	Other Offences.
62	109	2,641	16	—	1

E. D'A. BLYTH,

Sub-Inspector B.M.P.

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ANNUAL REPORT, 1897–8.—BEREA DISTRICT.

The past year can only be described as an unfortunate one for Berea district.

In my last Report I mentioned an outstanding claim made by Masupha to some lands of Leshoboro. This claim he began to enforce in the early spring. Shots were fired, and five men were killed. The whole tribe was against Masupha's contention, and he gave up his claims.

The Resident Commissioner called a large and representative meeting at Maseru, at which the matter was thoroughly thrashed out, and both Masupha and Leshoboro were fined as being to blame for the bloodshed.

At the e of 1897, Moiketsi Masupha having followed a runaway woman to the Orange Free State, and assaulted her paramour, was arrested in the act of forcibly bringing her back to Basutoland, and was sentenced, together with his men, by the Orange Free State Court to lashes and imprisonment. He escaped from the convict gang with a Free State subject, also a convict, and took refuge in Basutoland. The Free State demanded his extradition, which was refused. Masupha refused to surrender Moiketsi for trial by this Government according to law, but after much delay and under considerable pressure he gave up the Free State man. Lerothodi was then ordered to arrest Moiketsi, by force if necessary. He called together a considerable force and marched by way of Swiliswili to Moiketsi's village. Moiketsi was not found, and the village was burnt. Lerothodi then returned to Thaba Bosiu and commenced regular operations against Masupha, who had made all preparations to resist and had occupied a strong position near Khamolane store. On Lerothodi's forces crossing the Phutiatsana river and approaching the fortified position they were fired upon by Masupha's men, and during the fighting which ensued for the next three weeks, some forty or fifty men were killed and wounded on each side. Surmon, a minor son of Masupha, was shot dead in a cavalry skirmish, and Mojela Letsie was severely wounded. Masupha eventually surrendered his stronghold at Khamolane and gave up Moiketsi.

The Resident Commissioner held a pitso at Maseru, at which Marthinus represented his father Masupha. Moiketsi was sentenced to fourteen months hard labour for his misdeeds; Masupha was fined, was ordered to leave Thaba Bosiu village, which together with the defences of his stronghold was destroyed, and was deprived of his chieftainship of Berea district.

All border lines were examined, and were readjusted where it was found that Masupha's people had encroached on other men. The district then settled down in quiet for some months.

It is remarkable that throughout the fighting both sides showed a moderation hardly to be hoped for in semi-savage warfare. Flags of truce were respected, neutral buildings were spared where it was possible to do so, and on several occasions the winning side was restrained by its chiefs, where a free hand meant annihilation for the defeated men.

In April, His Excellency the High Commissioner visited Berea, but having already met all the chiefs at Maseru no political meetings were held.

Marthinus the eldest surviving son of Masupha died suddenly when starting to meet His Excellency at Maseru. For the present, Fako, his younger brother, has been appointed by Masupha, with my concurrence, to look after his ward and family.

Masupha, who is getting very old and broken, is feeling severely the want of trustworthy sons to guard his interests and those of his grandson and heir, who is still a schoolboy.

At the beginning of June, Masupha on the plea of harvesting went down to Thaba Bosiu, but refused to come back on its completion. He had no sympathisers, and finding himself deserted, at length realized that the Government decision was final, and without force being used returned to his own district. I am of opinion that this satisfactory result was to a great extent due to Jonathan Molapo's personal influence. No harm was done, except the creation of a general scare among Masupha's people in Berea.

Rinderpest during the winter and spring played havoc in Berea. Opposition to and delay in inoculation gave the disease a chance which it did not get in other districts, and the result has been disastrous. About 4,000 cattle (mostly infected) were inoculated by Government after the opposition of Masupha and others was withdrawn.

Severe epidemics of dysentery and typhoid followed the rinderpest, and caused a big death-rate among the native population.

The number of passes issued during the past year amounts to 4,787 as under :—

For labour	2,300
Other purposes...	2,407

This may be taken as about half the number issued in an ordinary year.

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Owing to Masupha's old age and habitual dilatoriness in the matter, and in a lesser degree the circumstances of the past year, there has been even greater trouble than usual in getting in the Hut Tax. Eventually, the Resident Commissioner sent the Paramount Chief to personally assist in the collection of the outstanding part. Owing to these measures the collection has been enabled to reach that of last year, and I have great reason to expect that the remaining arrears will be soon paid up. It must, however, be expected that the Hut Tax in Berea will show a permanent decrease for some time to come. The direct and indirect consequences of Masupha's late line of conduct have been so unpleasant that the loyalty of his followers has given way, and they are leaving the district in large numbers for other chiefs.

The following is the revenue for the last year in detail of heads of receipts :—

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	2,500	10	0
Licences	279	7	6
Fees	4	1	0
Miscellaneous	42	14	0
Total	£2,826	12	6

Of the Hut Tax £284 were paid for arrear Hut Tax.

The police force in this district consists of :—

European officer	1
Native sergeant	1
Native corporal	1
Native lance-corporal	1
Native privates	22
Total	26

also four men temporarily lent by Maseru for special duty.

The following was the patrol work done by the detachment :—

Number of patrols	113
„ „ men	330
„ „ miles	3,547
Arrests for Liquor Law	11
„ „ Pass Laws	2
Miscellaneous offences...	5

A detachment of 10 men has been stationed on the Caledon river, opposite Lady Brand, to cope with the smuggling trade which has been lately rampant on the border.

A list of lost stock reported at this station is shown :—

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Recovered.	Not traced.	Not recovered.
Horses	4	1	1	3	3
Cattle	12	10	10	2	2

The following cases were heard in this court during the year :—

Homicide	1
Assault	2
Theft	3
Public violence	3
Escape from custody	2
Liquor Laws	15
Pass Laws	5

There are 22 licenced trading stations in the district.

During the year there were 15 hawkers' licences issued, of which 11 were free and 4 were paid.

The roads are in fair order. Much damage was done by the very heavy rains of January, following on the protracted drought of the spring.

The crops, though much damaged by drought and locusts, were not bad as a whole, more damage being done by neglect during the disturbances than by want of rain. The wheat crops, however, failed completely. The natives not having even got their seed back, arrangements have been made for them to obtain seed-wheat on credit, to be paid back at harvest time.

There is no immediate danger of hunger in the district, although many people at Christmas sold their reserve of grain to prevent its capture.

L. WROUGHTON,

Assistant Commissioner.

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ANNUAL REPORT, 1897-8—MASERU DISTRICT.

The peace of the district was undisturbed for the first five months of the year, but the attitude of the chief Masupha, in disregarding the demand of the Paramount Chief for the surrender of his son Moiketsi, who made his escape from gaol in Lady Brand, threw the district into a state of intense anxiety and unrest. Lerothodi, acting on instructions from Government, found it necessary to take active measures, and was loyally supported by all the chiefs in the district, excepting Maama, who declined to take the field against Masupha, who is his uncle and father-in-law, and it was obvious that he wished to join Masupha, but his movements were closely watched by Lerothodi and frustrated. He was punished for this conduct.

After the loss of many lives on both sides the sons of Masupha realized their inability to hold their own against Lerothodi, and persuaded Masupha to surrender Moiketsi. Operations then terminated. Masupha was tried, and amongst other things was ordered to leave his village at Thaba Bosiu, which is in the Maseru district.

During the present month Masupha was permitted to come to Thaba Bosiu to reap the crops he cultivated before the row. After doing so, once having returned to his old village, he was reluctant to leave again and expressed his intention of not going away. Jonathan Molapo came to the rescue, and, using his good offices, prevailed on Masupha to abide by the Resident Commissioner's orders.

The inoculation of cattle in this district as a preventative against rinderpest was concluded in July. The operation on the whole has proved highly satisfactory, and I am pleased to report that in no instance in this district has the disease shown itself again.

A severe drought was experienced during the spring months, and as a consequence the harvest of wheat, mealies, and Kafir corn, comparatively speaking, proved a total failure. Locusts visited the district during the months of November and December, but owing to the paucity of the crops did not remain any length of time. Large swarms of voetgangers which appeared in March were destroyed by locust fungus, which was obtained from the Grahamstown Bacteriological Institute.

His Excellency the High Commissioner was pleased to visit Basutoland, and on the day of his arrival here was met by a large gathering of chiefs and people to extend to him their expressions of loyalty and welcome.

COMMERCIAL.

There has been a marked falling off of trade, accounted for by the failure of the crops. Those fortunate enough to reap even a small harvest of mealies have realized good prices.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The roads in the district are in fair order, and all Government buildings are in good repair.

POLICE.

The district detachment is efficient and consists of—

Sub-inspector	1
European constables	4
Native sergeant	1
Native corporals	2
Native privates	46

The following particulars are of patrols performed by the detachment during the year :—

Number of patrols	30
Number of men employed	127
Number of miles patrolled	3,800
Arrests for contravening Liquor Laws	6
Other offences	3

Since the removal of the restrictions necessitated by rinderpest regulations the border has been once more opened to illicit traffic in liquor, and I regret to say that it has been considerably on the increase of late.

In suppressing crime and facilitating the maintenance of law and order the chiefs have rendered the usual assistance.

The following return shows action taken in the matter of lost and stolen stock :—

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not Traced.	Recovered.	Not Recovered.
°Horses ...	23	—	23	3	20°
Cattle ...	16	6	10	6	10
Sheep ...	95	—	95	—	95

° Four recovered in Orange Free State.

LICENCES.

The following licences were issued during the year :—

General traders	26
Paid hawkers	11
Free	14

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The following cases were tried in my court :—

Theft	7
Housebreaking and theft	4
Contravening Gaol Regulations ...	1
Contravening Police Offences Act ...	3
Rape and theft	1
Concealment of birth	1
Contravening Customs Regulations ...	4
Contravening Master and Servant's Act	2
Contravening Liquor Regulations ...	6
Attempting to escape from gaol ...	1
Escaping from custody	1
Contravening Pass Regulations ...	2
Assault	1
Loitering	1
Contravening Hut Tax Regulations ...	1
Contempt of Court	1
Civil actions	13

REVENUE.

The revenue for the twelve months amounts to :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut Tax	3,984	10	0
Licences	272	0	0
Fines	49	5	0
Ferry tolls	117	19	9
Fees	9	11	4
Miscellaneous	216	3	7
Total	£4,649	9	8

Tax was paid on 7,673 huts. Arrear tax collected amounts to £396.

PASSES.

Passes were issued to—

Seeking employment	6,398
Other purposes	4,112
Total	10,510

Relations with Border States continue to be friendly.

C. GRIFFITH,

Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1897-8.—MAFETENG DISTRICT.

Mr. Kennan, Assistant Commissioner for the district, left for England on leave on February 21st, 1898, and on March 10th I arrived and took over charge from Sub-Inspector Murray.

In December, 1897, the trouble caused by Masupha broke out, and all the principal chiefs of the district left to join Lerothodi. There was, of course, considerable anxiety throughout the district, but, from what I can learn, the excitement was, on the whole, less than might have been expected.

I am sorry to have to report that the crops in this district last season were very bad indeed. There is at the present time great scarcity of food all through the district.

The following is a return of the police patrols during the year :—

Number of Patrols.	Number of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled.	Arrests.		
			Liquor Laws.	Pass Laws.	Other Offences.
184	494	10,146	10	8	9

Two men are constantly stationed at each of the three gates—at Sephapo's, Van Rooyen, and Tsupane's.

The strength of the detachment is as follows :—

Sub-Inspector	1
European constables	2
Native constable	1
Native officer	1
Sergeant	1
Corporal	1
Privates	31

The following is a return of lost and stolen stock reported at this office during the year :—

Description.	Reported.	Traced to Basutoland.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not re-covered.
Horses ...	7	4	3	4	3
Cattle ...	12	4	8	4	8*
Sheep ...	134	12	122	12	122

* Four of these were found by owner in Free State.

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I am glad to be able to report that since my arrival in the district every help has been given by the chiefs in the matter of tracing stolen stock.

Licences issued during the year were as follows :—

General traders	23
Paid hawkers	8
Free hawkers	32

The following cases were tried in the court during the year :—

Civil cases	8
Contravening liquor laws	7
Thefts	13
Homicide	1
Concealment of birth	2
Other crimes	14

The revenue collected was :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax	3,835	0	0
Licences	238	0	0
Fines	113	12	0
Fees	10	1	0
Miscellaneous	279	13	0
	£4,476	6	0

Number of huts on which tax was collected, 7,523 ; arrears of tax collected, £99 10*s.* 0*d.*

The number of persons to whom passes were issued was—

Seeking employment	6,996
Other purposes	10,443
Total	17,439

Relations with the Free State officials have been very satisfactory.

W. BOXWELL,
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1897-8.—MOHALE'S HOEK DISTRICT.

The early part of the past year will be long remembered in this district as a period of the severest drought experienced for many years. By many old inhabitants it was considered quite as severe as the great drought of 1862. Owing to the severity of this drought, the wheat crop in the district was practically a failure; what little was reaped was of a light and inferior quality.

In July I left my station and proceeded to the mountains at the request of the Chief Griffith Lerothodi and others, who wished for inoculation against rinderpest. I was away up to the end of August, and during that period inoculated 4,050 cattle with very satisfactory results.

Nothing of any political importance occurred until October, when the National Pitso was called by the Resident Commissioner, and many chiefs and people proceeded to Maseru to attend. It was there notified that Hut Tax collecting would commence on November 1st.

On the 1st of November the work was started, and proceeded with vigour. So well did the people respond that by the end of the month the bulk of the tax was in, and by the end of December practically finished.

In November and December much trouble was caused by persons who illicitly incited natives to leave Basutoland for labour purposes without paying their Hut Tax or obtaining passes. This illicit practice was the cause of much delay in the collection of the Hut Tax. Prompt action was at once taken to prevent a recurrence of this malpractice.

In December the young chief Griffith made a raid on the village of Mocheko, chief of the Baphuti, and looted the place; the cause of this was of long standing. It appears that Mocheko had slaughtered a stray ox, the owner of which found this out and complained to the Paramount Chief, who ordered that Mocheko was to be fined. He was called by Griffith, who was instructed by the Paramount Chief to try the case, but refused to attend court; the summons was repeated from time to time with the same result. Griffith became exasperated and took matters into his own hands and raided his village. Mocheko fled through Quthing district to Herschel.

In January Mr. Mansel, who was then on leave at Maseru, was sent to Herschel to fetch back Mocheko, who refused to return,

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saying that he feared for his life. After some trouble Mr. Mansel succeeded in bringing him back. The matter was investigated by the Resident Commissioner, who ordered Griffith to restore the property taken at the raid.

During this month the rain that commenced in December continued and flooded all streams. The Cornet Spruit again overflowed its banks and caused a considerable amount of damage in the vicinity.

A good number of persons proceeded to Matsieng during the month, being called by the Paramount Chief to assist in suppressing the Masupha rebellion.

In February a Free State burgher, named Raats, was arrested in Basutoland for gun smuggling. He was convicted, and a Free State Government Mauser rifle, found in his possession, confiscated.

During the month the Paramount Chief sent messengers to fine all chiefs and people who did not respond to his call in January to enforce the surrender of Moiketsi Masupha.

On the 22nd of this month I received an alarming letter from Mocheko to the effect that his life was in danger from Griffith Lerothodi. I immediately proceeded to the spot and investigated the matter, and found that Mocheko's pretended alarm was without foundation. This further convinced me of his utter unreliability, which has so often and plainly shown itself.

In March a large pitso was held here, when the quarrel of Griffith and Mocheko was investigated by the Paramount Chief, with whom I was associated by order of His Honour the Resident Commissioner. Mocheko made a very poor defence, and it was apparent to me that through his weak and vacillating policy he had brought his troubles upon himself. He complained that his property, taken by Griffith at the raid, had not all been restored. The Paramount Chief gave instructions that the whole was to be restored at once, and messengers were sent to see the order carried out. In the first week of June the chief sent five horses to be handed to Mocheko to make up for any loss he might have sustained.

In April great rejoicings and satisfaction were experienced by the inhabitants of the district owing to the visit of His Excellency the High Commissioner. His Excellency was met throughout his journey by the various clans, and much loyalty and satisfaction shown.

Owing to the severity of the drought the natives were unable to cultivate, and very little grain was sown until December, when too late for certain harvest. In consequence of this very little food was grown, and grain of sorts became dear and very scarce, seed wheat especially so. Nevertheless, a fair quantity has been sown, and should rain fall in time a fair harvest may be looked forward to.

My relations with the neighbouring States continue satisfactory. Illicit traffic in guns and liquor continue, but a considerable check is put upon it through the vigilance of the police, especially in Basutoland, and also in the Free State.

Education is being promoted. I have received good reports from the Rev. Marzolff of Maphutsing. I intended inspecting the school on my return from leave, but found the schools closed for the holidays. I am arranging for an inspection early in August next.

Owing to the scarcity of food many have left, and are still leaving, for labour markets in order to obtain money to supply their wants, and a great many passes have been issued.

The roads, which were much damaged in January by the heavy and continuous rains, have been repaired and are now in good order. Road parties, under European overseers, are maintained.

The stock in the district are in good condition, and the pasturage is good owing to the large number of cattle that died from rinderpest during last year and the early part of this. For the past few months there has been a large demand for slaughter stock, and good prices are paid for fat animals. Ponies also have been in demand and fair prices have been obtained.

Below will be found a schedule of the various returns.

Passes Issued.

Labour	4,128
Other purposes...	2,677
Total ...	6,805

Return of Patrols and Arrests.

Number of Patrols.	Number of Men.	Miles travelled.	Arrests.		
			Contravening Liquor Regulations.	Contravening Pass Laws.	Other Offences.
121	198	8,866	4	12	8
			24		

Lost Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	4	1	3	1	3
Cattle	1	—	1	—	1
Sheep	210	16	194	16	194

BASUTOLAND 1897–8.

RETURN OF CASES TRIED IN THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S COURT DURING THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1898

Civil cases	4
Contravening liquor regulations	3
Contravening pass laws	20
Perjury	1
Theft	9
Contravening custom regulations	1
Assault with intent...	1
Gaol breaking	1
Gun smuggling	1
Minor offences	2
Total ...	43

LICENCES.

General traders	13
Hawkers (paid)	16
„ (free)	4
Dam licences	2
Total ...	35

REVENUE.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax	3,774	0	0
Licences :—			
General trader's licence ...	130	0	0
Hawker's „ ...	16	0	0
Dam „ ...	3	0	0
Ferry tolls		17	0
Fines	63	17	6
Fees	3	17	6
Miscellaneous...	116	2	6
Total ...	£4,107	14	6

Arrear hut tax	£168 10*s.*
Number of huts paid on	7,404

The above table shows an increase of £332 19*s.* 3*d.* on last year's revenue, Hut Tax alone being £326 10*s.* in excess of that year. This result is all the more satisfactory when the recent ravages of rinderpest and the exceptional drought of last year are considered. During the last few years the influence of Chief Mocheko in the Baphuti ward has been gradually decreasing, while that of the Chief Griffith Lerothodi is being steadily but surely made more apparent.

This gradual change induced me this year to associate myself more definitely with Griffith in the matter of Hut Tax collection, and I think that the improvement indicated by the above figures is greatly due to this policy.

A further cause of the increase is undoubtedly the prompt measures which were taken during the year to suppress the action of unauthorized and unscrupulous labour agents, who had been in the habit of assisting large numbers of natives who had not paid Hut Tax to leave the territory without passes. I believe that still more satisfactory results would be effected by adopting a system of permanent police outposts along the Cape Colonial border.

Below are the current prices of stock and produce :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Wheat, per bag	1	15	0
Mealies, „	1	0	0
Kafir corn, per bag	1	0	0
Barley, „		10	0
Oats, „		10	0
Cattle, each	6	10	0
Horses „	6	0	0
Sheep „		12	6
Goats „		10	6

J. W. BOWKER,

Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND 1897–8.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1897-8.—QUTHING DISTRICT.

Nothing of consequence has occurred in this district during the last twelve months beyond the usual petty bickerings as to rights to land, pastures, thatch grass, &c., consequent upon the natural stress caused by a rapidly expanding population. Some excitement was, of course, prevalent among the Baphutti of this district during the incident between Griffith Lerothodi and Mocheko Letuka in the adjoining Mohale's Hoek district.

Many of the men of the district took part, under their Chief Nkwebe, in the movement against Masupha during January and February last.

Agriculture has been practically a failure during the past year. Many fields have gone out of cultivation owing to ravages of rinderpest. The drought, which lasted until January, retarded and destroyed the crops so that little grain has been harvested, and the people are likely to experience considerable want.

The phenomenal rainfall of January last, 19½ inches, caused much damage to all the district roads. These have since been put into fair order.

The police stationed in the district are fairly efficient.

The following patrols have been performed :—

Number of patrols	130
Number of men employed	311
Number of miles travelled	4,358
Arrests, liquor regulations	10
„ pass „	32
„ other offences	8

The police in the neighbouring territory have reported the loss of 673 sheep and 13 goats during the year. None of these have been traced to or recovered in Basutoland. It is probable that the greater number of these animals had merely strayed, and were thereupon reported to the police as having been stolen. Liquor smuggling still continues.

There is a decrease in the number of criminal cases as compared with the previous year. The numbers were as follows :—

Contravention of rinderpest regulations ...	2
Resisting police	2
Assault	4
Theft	5
Contravention of pass regulations ...	7
Culpable homicide	2
Rape...	1
Contravention of liquor regulations ...	5

The total revenue is practically the same as that for 1896–7 ; Hut Tax, however, shows an increase of £93 10*s*., the shortfall being under the head of licences.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax	2,419	10	0
Licences	308	4	6
Fees	4	15	6
Miscellaneous	76	2	6
Total	£2,808	12	6

Taxes were paid upon 4,797 huts, and arrears amounted to £36 10*s*.

During the past twelve months passes have been issued to 1,831 natives leaving the district in search of labour, and 2,279 for other purposes.

F. ENRAGHT-MOONY,

Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND 1897–8.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1897-8.—QACHA'S NEK DISTRICT.

In accordance with instructions received from the Resident Commissioner, I proceeded to this station on the 12th March last, Mr. Moony shortly afterwards leaving for Quthing.

At the close of last year rinderpest had not made its appearance, but broke out in July at Sekake's village. From there it travelled slowly up the Orange river to Ledingoana's ward, where it eventually died out.

Inoculation was carried out by Mr. Moony, assisted by trained natives, with very satisfactory results. During the months of September, October, and November 10,553 head of cattle were inoculated with bile and 47 with serum, thus making a total of 10,600. A serum station was established at Qacha's Nek, as it was considered inadvisable to rely upon a certain supply from Maseru owing to the distance and difficulty of transport.

Considerable difficulty was experienced in obtaining correct returns of deaths after inoculation. It is, however, estimated that 30 per cent. to 40 per cent. is a fairly correct approximation.

Towards the latter end of December, rumours were persistently circulated in the neighbouring districts of the Cape Colony that the rebel Le Fleur, for whose arrest a warrant had been issued, was in Basutoland for the purpose of persuading the chiefs and people to assist him in carrying out his rebellious schemes in East Griqualand. The Chief Makhaola, however, voluntarily stated that Le Fleur had not to his knowledge entered the country, but had merely sent him a letter for transmission to the Paramount Chief. Makhaola returned the letter, informing Le Fleur that he did not wish to act as his messenger. Notwithstanding this assurance of Makhaola's, increased patrols were sent out and the various gates carefully watched, with the result that four of Le Fleur's following were arrested and handed over to the Colonial authorities.

On January 12th a large number of natives under Makhaola, with other chiefs, left for Thaba Bosigo, in pursuance of Lerothodi's orders calling the nation to assist him in suppressing the Masupha disturbance.

On April 1st the majority of the chiefs and people of the district left for Maseru to welcome His Excellency the High Commissioner on his visit to Basutoland. On the 15th of the same month I left for the Maletsunyane Falls, reaching them on the 18th, on which day His Excellency inspected them while camped in the vicinity.

The uneasiness mentioned in the last Annual Report with regard to the border fence, appears to have died out among the Basuto in the district. The intention of the Colonial authorities to place two guards at five of the principal gates should have a salutary effect in checking thefts of stock and liquor smuggling, the former of which appears to be on the increase since the advent of colder weather. This is no doubt due to the wish to procure money to purchase blankets and clothing for winter use. In one case of sheep stealing it was reported that the thieves were overtaken by a snow storm, and that three of them perished through cold and exposure.

EDUCATIONAL.

There are two Government aided schools in the district, both of which I have inspected and furnished reports on.

It is noteworthy that notwithstanding that there are two native ministers in the district only two Christian marriages have taken place during the last sixteen months.

POLICE.

The police at this station consist of a corporal and twelve men. They have during the last year patrolled as follows :—

Number of patrols	58
Number of men	81
Miles patrolled	5,245
Arrests, pass laws	2
„ other offences	11

PUBLIC WORKS.

The road to this station continues, with slight attention, to keep in good order. Additions to gaol, officer's quarters, and stable have been erected or are in course of erection.

AGRICULTURE.

The crops in the district were in a promising condition, but hard frosts in the beginning of April, and later on a heavy snow storm, considerably reduced the prospects of an abundant harvest.

Current prices are as follows :—

Wheat	20*s.* per bag.
Mealies	10*s.* „
Kafir corn	15*s.* „
Horses	£2 each and upwards.
Cattle	£5 to £7 a head.
Sheep	12*s.* each.
Goats	8*s.* „
Wool...	3*d.* per lb.
Mohair	7*d.* „

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REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	1,300	0	0
Licences	20	0	0
Fines	1	11	0
Ferry tolls (nil)			
Fees		5	0
Miscellaneous receipts... ...	2	10	0
Total ...	£1,324	6	0

The hut tax shows an increase of £68 on last year's collection. Arrear tax collected, £48 10*s*. Number of huts paid on, 2,503.

LOST STOCK.

The following is a return of lost and stolen stock, showing action taken, and results:—

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	4	2	2	2	2
Sheep	57	—	57	—	57

CRIMINAL.

During the year the following cases were tried at this station:—

Contravening pass laws	8
Theft	7
Perjury	1

No civil cases were adjudicated upon.

PASSES.

Passes issued to men seeking work ...	1,116
„ „ „ for other reasons...	3,691
Total ...	4,807

FLOGGINGS.

No floggings have been inflicted at this station during the year.

H. R. CARTWRIGHT,
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1897-8.—PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The exceptionally severe drought experienced during the latter part of 1897 with its attendant diminished water supply, the pollution of the fountains by the decomposing carcases of cattle which succumbed to rinderpest, the contamination of the air from the same cause, the restricted food supply which is the natural concomitant of a bad season : all these causes combined to render the past year exceptionally unhealthy.

Typhoid Fever, already firmly established in certain districts, has been prevalent throughout the year, and the epidemic in some wards was of a very severe and fatal character. Gradually increasing during the months of September and October 1897, the epidemic attained its maximum intensity in November. Cases were very numerous during the months of December and January, since when the epidemic has gradually declined, although sporadic cases still appear in the wards where the disease was most prevalent.

Dysentery of a severe type was prevalent during the early summer months, and the mortality was high. The epidemic subsided with the appearance of the summer rains.

Small-pox.—No cases have been reported. Vaccination is, however, enforced wherever possible.

Varicella.—A few mild outbreaks of this disease have been observed in most districts, and as has been formerly noticed, old people seem to have been the most frequent victims.

Influenza prevailed during the months of April, May, and June. The epidemic was mainly characterized by the mildness of the initial onset, and the severe and protean aspects of the sequela, which accounted for a considerable number of deaths.

Syphilis.—This disease appears to be decreasing in a most satisfactory manner.

Epidemic dropsy.—In January 1898, numerous cases of a disease hitherto, I think, unknown in South Africa, but which I believe is identical with that which has been recognized in India, and is known there as *epidemic dropsy*, came under the notice of

BASUTOLAND 1897–8.

the medical staff in this country. The chief symptom of the disease is the presence of general dropsy not due to either cardiac or renal disease. There is usually some fever, and in most cases at some period of this course some gastro-intestinal disturbance. Severe pains in the limbs are often complained of. In many cases, however, the dropsy is the only symptom which attracts attention. So far as our observations have extended up to the present time, children between the ages of 3 and 12 years are most commonly attacked. The disease appeared simultaneously throughout the country, and is still prevalent. Its severity and duration vary within very wide limits, from a transient oedema of the extremities which disappears spontaneously in a few days, to the most extensive general dropsy, persisting for several months. In one case this was so severe that sloughing of the tissues occurred. The mortality does not appear to be high, but death has occurred rapidly in some cases. Owing to the impossibility of obtaining post-mortem examinations in this country, the pathology of the disease as observed here rests in obscurity, and the treatment adopted has been purely empirical and eminently unsatisfactory. In some recent cases, however, the writer has obtained a fair measure of success by the exhibition of thymol, but they are too few to warrant any definite expression of opinion as to the value of this drug.

HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY WORK.

There has been a considerable increase in the number of both in-patients and out-patients. The maximum number of the former which the present hospital accommodation admits has been reached, and until a sufficient grant is available to enable properly equipped wards and nursing aid to be provided at the different centres, the work in this direction must necessarily be very restricted. The extra accommodation afforded in Maseru by the erection early in the year of the Jubilee Memorial Operating Room, and the provision for one nurse for the wards, has proved a great boon, and the value of having even a few properly equipped beds was amply demonstrated during the disturbances which occurred in the early part of the year, when a number of cases of gunshot injury were under treatment. In addition to the usual tables showing the number of attendances during the year, I append a table giving the number of operations performed at the different stations. The difficulty and anxiety attendant on surgical work in this country are great, owing to the fact that the medical officers have to work entirely single-handed, thus having to supervise the administration of the anæsthetic as well as operate. Partly with a view to obviate this difficulty and partly for the purpose of endeavouring to clear up certain points connected with a little known subject, experiments have been made to test the efficacy of hypnotism as a means of inducing anæsthenia, and as a therapeutic agent. Considerable success

has attended the adoption of this method in surgical work, and by its aid during the past 8 months, upwards of 34 operations have been painlessly performed by the writer in the Maseru hospital and dispensary. Demonstrations of the method of inducing hypnosis have been given to some of the other medical officers, who have likewise adopted it with some success. Up to the present time about 64 per cent. of a series of unselected cases have been found subject to hypnotic influence. The very old and the very young appear to be least susceptible.

EDWARD C. LONG.

Principal Medical Officer.

TABLE showing the NUMBER of CASES treated at the various STATIONS during the year ended 30th June 1898.

Stations.	Out-patients.		In-patients.	Operations.
	New Cases.	Subsequent Attendances.		
Leribe	2,430	365	65	54
Maseru	3,991	1,589	105	140
Mafeteng	2,943	1,156	96	62
Mohale's Hoek ...	1,702	281	28	16
Quthing	747	183	—	—
Total ...	11,813	3,574	294	272

BASUTOLAND 1897-8.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1897-8.—MEDICAL OFFICER, LERIBE.

The following table shows the number of attendances at the dispensary and hospital during the year ended 30th June 1898 :—

New cases	2,430
Subsequent attendances	365
In-patients	65
Vaccinations	2,416
Total ...	5,276

The attendance for advice and medicine shows an increase over last year, but the number of vaccinations have decreased considerably. This is due to a number of causes, but chiefly to the closing of the border for a part of the year, and the consequent stoppage of emigration to the neighbouring territories.

GENERAL.

The numbers attending for the treatment of syphilis show a marked decrease, which is a hopeful sign. Diseases of the respiratory tract were very prevalent during the year, and they seem to be on the increase, and are in all probability due to the increasing adoption of European clothing without the knowledge of its dangers.

EPIDEMICS.

A severe epidemic of dysentery passed over this district during November and December. There were many deaths from it amongst the old and the very young. In one week in the camp there were 6 deaths, and from reports from outside districts the disease seems to have been equally severe.

During June influenza broke out and is still prevalent. The police suffered severely at first.

There was one case of typhoid fever in the camp, but the boy came from the Free State ill. The disease did not obtain a foothold.

There was no small-pox during the year.

The health of the police has been fairly good. The prisoners suffered considerably during the epidemic of dysentery.

HOSPITAL.

During the last half of the year the six beds in the hospital were fully occupied. A number of cases had to be turned away for want of room. Most of the 65 cases admitted were surgical. There were 4 deaths, all due to chronic diseases.

SANITARY.

The sanitary condition of the camp has been good. The water supply from the fountain is ample for the needs of the place if the waste water were conserved in a suitable reservoir.

CONCLUSION.

There has been an increase of work during the year, chiefly surgical. The small fee charged has weeded out those who came for the novelty of drinking a white man's medicine. People now come who are ill, and in this way the nature of the work has changed. They are beginning to appreciate the dispensary more and more, and to have a less dread of the hospital.

N. M. MACFARLANE, M.D.,

Medical Officer.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1897-8.—MEDICAL OFFICER, MAFETENG.

The following list gives the attendances at the hospital dispensary for treatment and for vaccination certificates, and the list of the previous year for comparison:—

	1897-8	1896-7.
New cases	2,943	2,246
Subsequent attendances	1,156	816
Hospital in-patients	96	52
Vaccinations	7,706	1,603
Total	11,901	4,717

There have been three deaths amongst the in-patients, two from phthisis and one advanced hip disease. Owing to the limited accommodation that the hospital affords many cases have been refused admission.

In the dispensary department the cases requiring treatment have been principally those suffering from dyspepsia and syphilis. Ophthalmia has been very prevalent.

In January and February there was rather a severe epidemic of dysentery and diarrhœa, and these cases were often complicated with or followed by an attack of acute nephritis; several of these cases ended fatally, especially amongst children.

The health of the Europeans and natives in the camp has been very good, and only a few cases of chicken-pox have occurred.

Although the prison has been rather crowded at times the prisoners have kept in excellent health.

The health of the police detachment has been very good.

A. LISLE WEBB,

Medical Officer.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1897-8.—MEDICAL OFFICER, MOHALE'S HOEK.

There has been an increase of attendances at the dispensary during the past year for both professional help and vaccination as a means of obtaining passes.

The following table will show this better :—

—	1896–7.	1897–8.
New cases	1,480	1,702
Subsequent attendances	272	281
Hospital in-patients	22	28
Vaccinations	1,085	3,432
Total	2,859	5,443

The increase is general, most so in number of new cases and vaccinations, the total increase being 2,584.

Of the 28 cases admitted to hospital, 18 were cured, six more or less benefited by treatment, two died, and two still remain under treatment. A large number of these patients were admitted for some venereal disorders of one sort or another.

Epidemics.

During March, April, and May there was a slight outbreak of varicella (chicken-pox), but with no fatal results ; adults were, however, attacked in considerable numbers.

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Throughout the year there have been isolated cases of typhoid fever which, however, was most prevalent during late summer months and autumn.

There were three or four deaths in the camp, and I heard of several others occurring in the district.

Influenza appeared just at the end of the year and most of the white population were attacked, although not in a severe manner, yet with a wonderful diversity of symptoms for so small a community. Natives have not taken much notice of it, and it does not seem to have caused them much discomfort or alarm, very few cases having presented themselves for treatment.

Police.

The health of the police has been good.

The sanitary arrangements of the camp cannot be complained of.

W. R. Nattle.

Medical Officer.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1897-8.—MEDICAL OFFICER, QUTHING.

On the 22nd December, 1897, I arrived here, and on the following day commenced the duties of my office.

The number of patients attending during the 6 months covered by this report is 930, a number small in comparison with what might be, but large in comparison with what has been.

The want of any hospital accommodation detracts greatly from the usefulness of the medical work here, and not merely reduces the number of patients quantitatively, but influences the work qualitatively, bringing it down to exclusive out-patient work, and perforce excluding any but very minor surgical operations, and hindering continued medical treatment. The position of the camp on the top of a long steep hill also tends to keep away some who are afraid to try it, and it is a heavy climb for a person ill enough to seek the aid of the dispensary. Also, in spite of all civilising influences at work, there remains a large substratum of superstition in every native mind, and there is much more sickness in the district than the above numbers would indicate, which is treated by the "dollos" throwing and decoction brewing ngaka of the Basuto.

At the same time by reference to the books I find that the attendance during the six months now ended is between double and treble the attendance during any previous six months, so that although the natives do not take advantage to the full, or anything like it, of the medical advantages provided them by Government they are coming more and more, and as time goes on will turn their backs on the white and black quacks who have been exploiting them.

There are certain recommendations which I would make from a hygienic point of view.

1. That the source of the Quthing water supply be walled in or otherwise enclosed, so as to prevent contamination by cattle or other causes of impurity.

2. That the cesspool adjoining the offices be disinfected and closed up.

3. That the food of the prisoners should if possible have some variety, *e.g.*, by an occasional change in the nature of grain from which their food is made, and by a small admixture of fat of some kind, especially in the winter.

BASUTOLAND 1897-8.

The health of the Europeans in the camp is good.

The police detachment in the camp with their wives and families have on the whole enjoyed good health.

There has been no epidemic with the exception of whooping cough, of which there were 8 cases.

The prisoners have likewise had an immunity from infectious disease, but there has been a good deal of stomach and bowel disease of a slight nature which might be prevented, I think, by slightly changing the diet occasionally.

There has been no small-pox in the district since my arrival. I have done over 1,000 vaccinations in the 6 months, mostly with glycerinated lymph, which has given very satisfactory results, removing the objection to some lymph supplies of being at first virulent and then inert. This addition of glycerine not only makes it go a much longer way but also improves the quality in the way indicated above.

If not occupying too much space I would like to subjoin a few details of the work done at the dispensary. Of the 930 patients 747 were new patients, and 183 were "repeats" or plural attendance patients. The disease bulking most largely in the work done is syphilis in its various forms and steps. The figures are most instructive. Primary syphilis, 2 cases; secondary, 27 cases; tertiary, 114 cases. These figures show that the natives do not trouble much about the first manifestation, and the secondary stage does not even prove very alarming; they come, however, when they see the terrible effects of the tertiary stage, in most cases regarding it as a new disease, not a stage of the complaint they have long suffered from in a milder form. I have seen here most extensive destruction of organs and parts, and to produce so many and so extensive lesions argues the presence of a syphilis not benign and tending to self cure, but a virulent syphilis going on to extensive and deep-rooted destruction of organ and function.

I had 8 cases of typhoid fever here (enteric fever is another name).

Uterine diseases bulk largely, more so than we would expect, as the following list shows:—Chronic metritis, 23; acute metritis, 3; dysmenorrhœa, 9; menorrhopia, 3; ovarian neuralgia, 3; tubal colic, 1; ovarian tumour, 1.

Dysentery, 24; diarrhœa, 36; gonorrhœa and gonorrhœal arthritis, 32; erysipelas, 5; diphtheria and croup, 2; ophthalmia, 28, mostly catarrhal; 3 cases gonorrhœal; corneal ulcers, 8; cataract, 3; chalagion, 1; glaucoma, 1; aneurism, 2; locomotor ataxia, 1; leprosy, 1 new case; scurvy, 1, (from Kimberley); actinomy-cosis, 1; renal calculus, 2. Of tumours

21 various attended ; all those which it was practicable to remove I removed, others I recommended to wait or go elsewhere where there was hospital accommodation.

A large number of trifling cases of coughs and colds, amongst these, however, cases of more gravity, *e.g.*, pneumonia croupous, 2 ; pneumonia catarrhal, 15, the latter mostly amongst neglected and delicate children.

There is a good deal of scabies, which is a disease yielding at once to treatment and cleanliness, so of no importance. 23 cases of acute, and 24 of chronic, rheumatism due doubtless to exposure more or less to the weather. 1 case of tubercular phthisis came under notice about which there was no doubt. 16 cases of congenital syphilis have come under my notice in the last six months.

There is one recommendation which I would like to make and which, while not directly in the line of medical work, would be preventive in some cases of death by drowning, *i.e.*, to place at Siaka under charge of the master of the Pont two life-belts of cork. It would tend to prevent drowning, which in the last few years has accounted for 14 deaths at and near Siaka drift.

D. M. TOMORY, M.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer.

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REPORT FOR 1898-9.

(For Report for 1897-8, *see* No. 255.)

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10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.

No. 288.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1897-8, *see* No. 255.)

GOVERNOR SIR ALFRED MILNER to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,
Cape Town,
November 14th, 1899.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit for your information a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland, enclosing the Annual Reports on the Territory for the year ended 30th June last.

I have, &c.,
A. MILNER,
Governor and High Commissioner.

From the RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, Basutoland, to the HIGH COMMISSIONER, Cape Town.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Basutoland,
October 21st, 1899.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit your Excellency my Report on Basutoland for the year ended 30th June, which was drawn up in August last.

I have, &c.,
G. Y. LAGDEN,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency the High Commissioner, &c.,
South Africa.

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BASUTO-LAND, 1898-9

Resident Commissioner's Office,

Basutoland, Maseru,

August, 1899.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit your Excellency my Report upon British Basutoland for the year ended 30th June, 1899, covering reports of Government Secretary, with statistics, Assistant Commissioners of Districts, and Medical Officers.

POLITICAL.

So soon as the country had had time to recover from the upheaval connected with the Moiketsi disturbances, alluded to in last year's report, it quickly settled down into a quiet state. The chief Masupha, who had failed to succeed in resisting constitutional orders and defying the Paramount Chief, soon lost the prestige which tradition had associated with his name, and sank into oblivion as a political factor. He made a few spasmodic efforts to return to the dismantled village at Thaba Bosigo, but was met by uncompromising refusal. So mortifying was this to his arrogant nature that he broke down and died in July under humiliating circumstances, no chiefs of consequence being present, according to custom, to witness his last moments. His own children only were present, and the obsequies were performed in a hurried and unceremonious way.

Thus disappeared a chief who has played an important part in the history of Basutoland. With all his faults, and in spite of the continuous trouble he caused by his contumacy, he had the merit of struggling gamely for independence of control, which for many years he succeeded in gaining.

In addition to a winning and persuasive manner, he possessed considerable strength of character. So long as he directed his energies against Government, the other chiefs tolerated and allowed him to lead; but they declined to be led when they realised that his overpowering jealousy of the present Paramount Chief was tending towards tribal disruption calculated to wreck the whole nation. Masupha's eldest son died of drink in 1886. The grandson and heir is now at Zonnebloem College, Cape Town. Moiketsi, who was sentenced to fourteen months hard labour, behaved in an exemplary manner in prison. With your Excellency's approval four months of the sentence were remitted.

Political events in South Africa, affecting the European States, which have for some months been swaying the public

mind, had their counterpart in Basutoland. The policy of this Administration has always been to avoid allowing the natives to hold the idea that they have any concern in matters affecting the European races in South Africa. But the natives read considerably, and are very inquisitive. Moreover, I regret to say that many of the Border Boers have, as in former times of unsettlement and crisis, made it their business to propagate amongst the Basuto false and misleading stories of a nature designed to shake their allegiance to the Queen, and to impair the authority of the Government. Consequently, the native mind became agitated, and doubts arose as to the real existence of British supremacy in South Africa. It was not politic for us even to discuss such doubts, the mere entertainment of which is calculated to undermine authority. Natives become bewildered unless it is manifest that the power which governs them is unquestionably supreme.

At intervals the Basuto expressed the hope that, as loyal subjects of the Queen, they would be employed in the Queen's battles. At other times they seemed uncertain as to where the real power lay, and displayed a reserve indicative of uneasiness which required careful treatment. The policy has been to dispel from their minds any illusion that the Queen requires the help of natives in maintaining her authority in her South African dominions, so far as Europeans are concerned. It is natural, however, that some of the chiefs should have regarded a serious misunderstanding between English and Dutch as their opportunity to shake free of any fetters that were uncongenial, and to embarrass the Government. The question of taxation, upon which your Excellency addressed the Paramount Chief personally last year, was seized upon by one or two men of rank, notably Jonathan Molapo, whose example to Lerothodi's son and heir, Letsie, had the effect of inducing the latter to constitute himself a leader of opposition.

In justice to the Paramount Chief, I must say that any wavering he displayed was due to the difficulty he experienced with his eldest son in particular. Desirous as he may be of supporting the Government in maintaining order, Lerothodi becomes at times paralysed by the injudicious conduct of his children, whom he hesitates to control as they should be controlled. He cannot be fairly brought to see that the duties of Paramount Chief transcend the affection of a father, and that children having tribal powers must subordinate themselves to his authority.

A distinct feature of the year was a very large gathering of chiefs who at my suggestion met to consider various questions affecting the tribe. The gathering was thoroughly representative, and its proceedings were characterised by moderate and constitutional speech. Subsequently, the chiefs in a body conferred with me at Maseru and presented a petition for

transmission to your Excellency. The chief points in the petition were :—

(*a*) Prayer for a National Council, which had been offered them in 1890 and would then have been established but for their rejection of it by lukewarmness and disagreement.

(*b*) Representations as to illtreatment of Basuto in the Orange Free State; the non-recovery of native women who eloped with paramours and found refuge beyond our borders; difficulties of recovering lost and stolen stock that found its way to the Orange Free State.

(*c*) Complaints as to traders charging high rates for grain required as food in times of hunger.

Though recognising the right of the people to appeal freely about grievances, so long as the procedure was respectful, and the value of such appeals, it may be observed that while some of the grievances deserved and received our entire sympathy there were others which amounted to unreasonable murmurs only.

In my conference with petitioners I pointed out how much had been done by Government during the past 15 years to ameliorate their condition, and the difficulties of remedy which some of the grievances presented. More especially are remedies hard of accomplishment when parties and property are within the jurisdiction of a foreign State. Moreover, elopement is not an extradition crime, and the thieving, of which complaint was made, is done by their own people. As regards the price of grain during times of hunger, the Basuto, like all untutored races, cannot understand the laws of supply and demand which must, of course, regulate prices. Yet it may be noted that, whilst in former seasons of hunger a bag of grain often had to be purchased with a fat ox or its value, on this occasion the action of Government by its preparedness to buy in a foreign market and sell at cost price, led to the moderation of prices to the extent that the maximum charge for a bag did not exceed 25*s*.

Your Excellency was good enough to consider fully the prayers of the petitioners and to satisfy them of your readiness to apply all practicable remedies, in furtherance of which I was placed in possession of your advice and instructions as to the means by which Government might properly take upon itself a heavier burden in the matter of aggrieved natives, who had but a poor chance of pursuing successfully upon their own initiative cases of hardship for which redress had to be sought in foreign courts.

Generally speaking, the year was politically of the quietest since 1884. It was marred more than usual perhaps by the struggle between Government officers and people in attempts to suppress the liquor traffic. The Paramount Chief lent himself

loyally to the detection and punishment of offenders, and in other respects co-operated well in matters where law and order were concerned. Similarly, other chiefs submitted themselves happily to their magistrates for the settlement of the many local disputes about land, and aided generally in the suppression of crime.

Upon the earnest request by the Paramount Chief, extending over several years, that his second son, Griffith, should be recognised by Government in a ward appointed for him, and in terms of a promise made by your Excellency in response to Lerothodi's appeal, I was present in May last when the young chief was "placed" under authority.

The principal chiefs in the tribe who had supported the appeal were present on the occasion. The young chief's location is in the Mohale's Hoek District, where reside a number of Baphuti who, as a clan, were entirely broken up after the Moirosi war. A grandson of Moirosi, named Mocheko, who, by the permission of the late Paramount Chief, was allowed by courtesy a petty chieftainship north of the Orange River, took upon himself recently to dispute the authority of the present Paramount Chief and to intrigue against him. His plan was to create disturbances and then seek refuge in the Herschel District of the Cape Colony. Mocheko has no position in the tribe, and I trust the success he has hitherto achieved in crossing the border and playing off one Government against another will fail in future.

FINANCIAL.

Financial statistics are given in the Government Secretary's report.

The hut tax was well paid, exceeding, as it should by increase of population, all previous years. It was announced by the High Commissioner last year that the amount was increased from 10*s.* to £1; but, owing to scarcity of food, the larger amount was, by authority, not levied and the change comes into operation in the succeeding year. There is no public debt.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Statistics given in separate report. Owing to failure of crops it was a bad year for trade. In some parts of Southern Districts the yield was sufficient only for food, but in the North and Central Basutoland the supply was really good and ample for the wants of the whole country.

Though for its size and population Basutoland produces a comparatively enormous quantity of grain, it has an industry of great economic value to South Africa, viz., the output of native labour. It supplies the sinews of agriculture in the Orange Free

State; to a large extent it keeps going railway works, coal mining, the diamond mines at Jagersfontein and Kimberley, the gold mines of the Transvaal, and furnishes, in addition, a large proportion of domestic servants in the surrounding territories.

The number of men who received passes for labour during the year under review amounted to 37,371.

These facts are the best rejoinder to those who urge that Basutoland is a useless native reserve. To others, who urge higher education of the natives, it may be pointed out that to educate them *above* labour would be a huge mistake. Primarily the native labour industry supplies a dominion want, and secondly it tends to fertilize native territories with cash which is at once diffused in exchange for English goods.

LEGISLATION.

Proclamations by the High Commissioner having effect of law were issued as follows:—(1) No. 21 of 29th December 1898—proclaiming new Customs Union and Tariff. (2) No. 11 of 10th April 1899—providing for the recognition in Basutoland of Letters of Administration granted within the Cape Colony.

EDUCATION.

A review of the work of education was sent in my despatch of 18th January last, which covered a report specially made by the Rev. Canon Woodrooffe, a School Inspector lent to us from the Cape Colony.

Canon Woodrooffe, in summing up the results of his inspection, stated that, in comparison with the inspection of 1892, the progress is highly satisfactory. I do not doubt that the amounts granted in aid by Government to the mission societies, who devote themselves to the work with such care and energy, are well placed and well expended.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospital work, as recorded by the medical officers, is satisfactorily maintained. Each station is now fitted with a small operating room, and efforts have been made to better the condition of the rough buildings used as hospitals.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The native police do their work well. Prisons are clean and serviceable, though small, and are gradually being improved. Criminal statistics compare favourably with other years, and disclose the fact that the percentage of crime to population is very small. Serious crime is conspicuous for its absence.

Vital statistics, postal and telegraph services, police returns, and other services are dealt with in the Government Secretary's Report.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

It has been pointed out in the reports of previous years how impossible it is to indicate from year to year any specific features of national progress. Nevertheless, the tendency of the people is towards improvement. Though the social condition of the natives leaves much to be desired, according to European ideas, any attempt to introduce radical changes would be interpreted by the Basuto as a design upon their cherished customs and institutions which, in so far as they are not brutal or repugnant to civilized thought, are, according to the policy and instructions of Her Majesty's Government, not now interfered with. The ability to imbibe technical knowledge and earn good wages, the desire to possess money, to wear decent clothes, to have respectable houses and furniture, to educate children, and have their own churches and schools, are automatically working social changes which no laws or persuasion can so well effect.

At the same time it would be wrong not to award to missionary effort the good effect that has been wrought by it in the spread of religion, when divested of dogma, and its excellent influence upon the barbarian mind both as regards the ethics of right and wrong, and in the splendid example of the missionaries.

I beg again to represent the excellent services of the officers of the Administration, to whom may be attributed, as a body, a wholesome desire to promote the best interests of the country and perseverance in doing so.

I have, &c.,

G. Y. LAGDEN,

Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency the High Commissioner, &c.,
South Africa,

BASUTO-LAND. 1898-9.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARY, BASUTOLAND, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1899.

FINANCE.

The following is a comparative return of Basutoland revenue and expenditure for the past and preceding four years:—

Year ending 30th June.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1895	44,627 5 10	43,064 8 9
1896	45,653 18 1	42,970 14 5
1897	45,867 11 2	45,768 7 4
1898	46,555 7 6	44,797 10 10
1899	46,847 16 8	46,417 12 9

The above statement shows an uninterrupted annual increase in revenue due to the yearly increase in the amount of Hut Tax collected. The revenue under this head for the past year has been £23,678, as against £23,438 collected in the previous year. Of the tax paid during the year under report the sum of £1,450 represents arrear tax. Tax has been paid on 45,021 huts.

The above totals of annual revenue include a sum of £18,000 contributed each year by the Government of the Cape Colony. In reduction of this amount the Customs dues credited to Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1899 amounted to £11,016 16*s.* 6*d.*, which amount together with a refund of £430 3*s.* 11*d.* has been repaid to the Cape Treasury. The nett amount contributed by the Cape Government during the past year is thus:—

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Drafts paid to Basutoland Government.		18,000 0 0
Customs dues credited to Basutoland and handed to Cape Government.	11,016 16 6	
Refund	430 3 11	
		11,447 0 5
Total amount of Cape contribution.		£6,552 19 7

A larger refund in reduction of the Cape contribution would have been possible but for the expenditure of £1,500 as a first payment towards the cost of construction of a telegraph line through Basutoland.

TRADE AND AGRICULTURE.

The imports of dutiable goods into Basutoland for the year ended 31st March 1899 amounted to :—

	£
From Cape Colony	45,992
From Orange Free State	47,691
Total ...	£93,683

upon which the share of the Customs dues to Basutoland (being 85 per cent. of total duties collected at the ports) was £11,016 16*s.* 6*d.*

In the preceding year the imports amounted to £100,280, upon which the Basutoland Customs dues were £10,699 19*s.* 6*d.*

There has been a slight falling off in the total value of imports and a slight increase in the Customs revenue, a result due in some measure to the operation of the new tariff under which blankets and woollen goods are imported at an increased rate of 20 per cent. *ad valorem* duty. The principal articles of import trade are woollen and cotton manufactured goods, hardware, and saddlery, almost entirely of British manufacture.

Closely connected with the import trade is the agricultural condition of the country. The past year has not been on the whole a fortunate one for a community so dependent upon their crops as are the Basuto. The earlier part of the season was, as has been the case for several past years, dry and unfavourable for the wheat crop, particularly in the south of the country. Scarcity prevailed in the southern districts, and to meet local wants a quantity of grain was removed from the more fortunate Leribe and Berea districts for sale in the south. The exports of produce, both in quantity and value, have been considerably less than during the preceding two years.

The following is a comparative return of exports :—

Articles.	Year ending 30th June 1897.		Year ending 30th June 1898.		Year ending 30th June 1899.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Muids.	£ s. d.	Muids.	£ s. d.	Muids.	£ s. d.
Wheat	58,951	52,599 7 6	19,984	17,450 4 7	3,832	3,074 16 0
Mealies	64,576	42,424 11 0	99,352	52,590 14 3	13,370	9,319 18 0
Kafir Corn	4,746	4,273 13 3	14,739	8,760 6 0	4,684	4,028 2 0
Meal	1,060	1,663 12 6	1,876	2,813 11 0	244	317 1 0
Mealie Meal	40	44 0 0	17	13 0 0	15	22 10 0
Wool	Lbs. 854,879	10,234 0 2	Lbs. 1,992,131	24,989 15 4	Lbs. 1,509,421	27,242 19 0
Mohair	„ 72,672	2,567 2 2	„ 128,067	4,448 2 2	„ 189,743	6,125 12 0
Cattle	227	932 5 0	711	3,959 1 0	2,555	14,282 15 0
Horses	1,336	9,892 19 6	1,966	12,628 12 0	1,869	14,091 17 0
Miscellaneous	—	279 11 10	—	10,846 0 5	—	4,110 1 0
Total	—	124,911 2 11	—	138,499 6 9	—	82,615 11 0

Locusts made their appearance in several districts during the year, and supplies of "fungus" for their destruction were issued. Reports varied as to the effect of the "fungus," but there seems no reason to doubt that some swarms were destroyed by this means, and the locusts caused little or no damage to the crops.

General traders' licences to the number of 140 have been issued, and 80 monthly licences to hawkers trading with wagons: in addition to which 161 free licences for trade or barter in the produce of the country have been granted.

The Basuto have a considerable source of income in the wages earned by labourers who seek employment in foreign territories. The passes issued to natives leaving the country during the year are summarised in the following classified return:—

Object of Journey.	Number of Individuals.
Seeking employment at Johannesburg	5,971
" " " Kimberley	1,096
" " " Jagersfont in	4,494
" " " Coal Mines (Cape Colony) ...	1,635
For the purpose of Farm and Domestic Service	24,175
Total labourers	37,371
For the purpose of visiting	56,653
Total	94,024

EDUCATION.

The expenditure on education during the past year has been £4,449 4*s.*, in the shape of grants to the three mission societies, expenditure on the maintenance of scholars at industrial and training institutions at Cape Town, Grahamstown, and Lovedale, and other minor miscellaneous charges connected with education.

The school returns furnished show the following number of scholars on the books of the various mission schools and training institutions:—

Number of schools in Basutoland ...	169
Number of scholars on books	10,348
Mean average attendance	7,228

The above number of scholars includes 23 students receiving Government aid at various training institutions in the Cape Colony.

POLICE AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The strength of the Basutoland Mounted Police is as under:—

European officers	11
European constables	8
Native officers	6
Native sergeants	7
Native corporals	9
Native privates	206

In addition to purely police duties, officers and men are constantly employed in collection of tax, political messages, and other work. The following police work has been performed:—

Number of patrols	1,277
Estimated distance travelled ...	47,469
Arrests under Liquor Law ...	61
Arrests under Pass Law	124
Arrests for other offences	84

The number of arrests for the three classes of offences shown is 269 as against 236 in the preceding year, thus testifying to the fact that there has been no diminution in police zeal or activity.

The following cases were dealt with in the Assistant Commissioners' Courts.

Arson	1
Assault	7
Breaches of Customs Regulations ...	3
Breaches of Pass Law	116
Breaches of Liquor Law	68
Breaches of Law as to Firearms ...	5
Fraud	5
Homicide	6
Housebreaking	4
Illicit diamond dealing	4
Miscellaneous offences	37
Resisting police	16
Riot	7
Theft	80
Total number of cases tried ...	359

34 civil cases were adjudicated upon.

259 prisoners were received into gaol, of whom 66 remained in gaol on 30th June 1899. No floggings were inflicted during the year.

Six prisoners were surrendered to the Governments of the neighbouring territories under the Fugitive Offenders Act and Extradition Convention.

Return of Lost Stock Reported.

Stock.	Number Reported as lost.	Definitely traced to Basuto-land.	Not so traced.	Re-covered.	Not re-covered.
Horses	66	16	50	18	48
Cattle	55	31	24	31	24
Sheep	626°	35	591	45	581†

° 26 sheep and 2 horses were recovered in the Cape Colony.
† 18 of this number were reported as killed by leopards in Griqualand East.

POPULATION.

In the census of 1891 the population was returned at 218,324 natives and 578 Europeans. The increase in the native population can only be approximately estimated. A calculation based on the increased payment of Hut Tax gives 263,600 as the present native population, which is probably not far from the actual number.

The state of the public health is alluded to in the reports of the Medical Officers.

Small-pox appeared at several places, but was stamped out by vigorous measures of quarantine and vaccination.

The meteorological observations, taken daily at seven stations throughout the country during the calendar year ended 31st December 1898, show a range of temperature from a mean maximum of 85 degrees to a mean minimum of 30·9 degrees.

The average rainfall during the same period was 34·16 inches.

POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH SERVICES.

The Postal Revenue for the year was £1,520 9*s.* 4*d.*, against an expenditure under the same head of £2,039 1*s.* Of the Postal Revenue, £293 4*s.* 10*d.* is due to telegraph receipts.

The following are a few principal postal statistics :—

Letters posted	148,343
Post cards	3,159
Newspapers	18,733
Book and sample packets	6,773
Parcels	1,170
Total ...	178,178

Correspondence Received.

Letters	143,738
Post cards	3,029
Newspapers	51,441
Book and sample packets	9,347
Parcels	4,251
Total ...	211,806

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Money orders issued	6,471	5	5
Money orders paid	5,893	2	10
Deposits in savings banks ...	1,873	1	6
Withdrawals	1,619	15	2

I have the honour to enclose the reports of the following officers :—

The Assistant Commissioner, Leribe.
The Officer in Charge, Butha Buthe.
The Medical Officer, Leribe.
The Assistant Commissioner, Berea.
The Assistant Commissioner, Maseru.
The Principal Medical Officer, Maseru.
The Assistant Commissioner, Mafeteng.
The Medical Officer, Mafeteng.
The Assistant Commissioner, Mohale's Hoek.
The Medical Officer, Mohale's Hoek.
The Assistant Commissioner, Quthing.
The Assistant Commissioner, Qacha's Nek.

H. C. SLOLEY,
Government Secretary.

Maseru,
July 25th, 1899.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1898–9.—LERIBE.

Compared with the year before, the past year has been a quiet one in Leribe. The district has been much quieter, and though many causes of unrest exist still, they have for the most part been smoothed over, and at the present moment are not acute.

The most discontented portion of the district are, perhaps, the Makhcakhoa clan. Since the death of their chief Matela they have been split up into sections, each son with his following desiring to be directly under Jonathan or Lerothodi; Letsika, the eldest and chief of the clan, being very anxious to sever his connection with Leribe and the chief Jonathan. This, of course, is resented by Jonathan.

On the Ramanella side there are the usual boundary disputes with Jonathan's people, and inside that ward there is the complaint of Seshope, the second son, that he has been unfairly dealt with by his elder brother in the matter of dividing the ward.

Jonathan's son Tau has been sent by his father to occupy the Pitseng Plateau, and many people have gone to live under him. He has not yet been officially placed by the Government, though he propably will be before long. There is friction between him and his uncle Khetisa, many of whose outlying followers now look up to Tau. This is no doubt hard on Khetisa, but it is what happens all over Basutoland. When the sons of the senior chiefs grow up and are placed out they absorb the younger sons of the former generation. Tau has been sensibly brought up and fairly educated. He is a well-meaning boy and well-disposed, and I have hopes that under proper direction and judicious control he will become a good and strong chief.

Small-pox broke out at several places in the district during the year under report, but owing to the effective measures of quarantine adopted there was no spread of the disease. Vaccination, both arm to arm and from fresh lymph, was largely carried on, particulars of which will be furnished by the Medical Officer in his report.

I append a return of revenue. The Hut Tax shows an increase of £46 on last year, which in its turn was a record year.

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	5,671	10	0
Licences	483	0	0
Fines	96	12	0
Fees	3	0	0
Miscellaneous	183	13	0
Total ...	£6,437	15	0

BASUTO-LAND, 1898–9.

Tax was paid on 11,082 huts. Arrear tax collected amounted to £291 10*s*.

The following is a return of licences issued :—

General traders	44
Paid hawkers	31
Free hawkers	16

The following table shows the results of action taken in the matter of tracing and recovering lost or stolen stock :—

Description.	Reported.	Traced to Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not re-covered.
Horses	8	4	4	3	5
Cattle	9	1	8	1	8
Sheep and Goats	34	22	12	22	12

The cases tried in my court are :—

Theft	14
Housebreaking	2
Homicide	2
Contravening Pass Laws	40
Contravening Liquor Laws	19
Contravening Customs Regulations	2
Contravening the Law relating to Firearms ...	2
Resisting police	2
Arson	1
Civil actions	13

The harvest, on the whole, may be said to be good. The wheat crop failed, and the mealie crop was only fair, but the Kafir corn crop was a very heavy one. Seed wheat was issued on credit by the traders under an arrangement with Government, and, though few natives reaped any wheat, the liability incurred is being loyally met without pressure by the court.

Produce at present fetches about the following prices :—

Wheat	25*s.*	per muid.
Mealies	12*s.*	„
Kafir corn	7*s.* 6*d.*	„
Ponies	£8	each.
Cattle	£10	„
Sheep and goats ...	15*s.*	„
Wool	4*d.*	per lb.
Mohair	8*d.*	„
Forage	30*s.*	per 100 bundles.

The following is a return of passes issued :—

For the mines, Johannesburg	...	2,220
For the mines, Kimberley ...	...	134
For the mines, Jagersfontein	...	71
For the coal mines, Cape Colony	...	47
For farm and domestic service	...	8,520
For visiting and other purposes	...	14,142
Total passes issued	...	25,134

The following table shows the amount of patrol work done by the police :—

No. of Patrols.	Men Engaged.	Estimated Distance Travelled (Miles).	No. of Arrests.		
			A. Contravening Liquor Laws.	B. Contravening Pass Laws.	C. Other Offences.
425	676	10,937	21	40	9

My relations with the neighbouring Free State officials continue to be of a friendly nature.

I attach a report by the officer in charge at Butha Buthe on that part of the district under his supervision. The statistics he gives are included in mine.

I also attach the Medical Officer's report.

BASUTO-LAND, 1898–9.

I have to report that three cases of personal injury to natives of Basutoland in the Orange Free State have been brought to my notice during the year.

The first was that of a native, who complained that he had been thrashed by a farmer over whose ground he was passing. He could show no marks of violence, and could bring no evidence to support his statement. He was sent to the authorities at Ficksburg, who, on the farmer denying the assault, dismissed the case.

The second was the case of a native who was tied up and flogged by his master. This case was also sent to Ficksburg, and the master was summoned by the Landdrost, found guilty, and fined two pounds sterling.

In the third case a native was fired at four times by his master, who happens to be a justice of the peace. This case was sent through the Government Secretary to the Free State Government, who, on the Boer explaining to the Landdrost that he only intended to frighten the boy, contented themselves with expressing disapproval of his methods, and no prosecution was instituted. I am now in communication with a law agent in Ficksburg with a view to ascertaining the possibility and chances of success of a private prosecution.

GAOL RETURN.

Cases.	Guilty.	Not Guilty.	Committed to Gaol.	Discharged.	Now in Gaol.
31	31	—	23	9	14

No floggings were inflicted.

J. C. MACGREGOR.

Assistant Commissioner.

Assistant Commissioner's Office, Leribe,
July 4th, 1899.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1898-9.—BUTHA BUTHE.

The general state of the ward during the year has been peaceful. There was a good deal of ill-feeling between chief Joel Molapo and his younger brother Hlasoa. This, however, has been more or less settled at a pitso held here, at which the chief Jonathan was present. Hlasoa is not living very happily, but for the time at least the acute state of the trouble has passed.

There has been, as usual, a lot of disputing and quarrelling among the Makhoakhoa, which in April ended in a fight between Chaka's and Dijo's people. Those taking part were called up and various fines were inflicted. No lives were lost.

In September last small-pox broke out at Sekubu, and afterwards in several villages near Seruthle and Belo's. The disease was stopped from spreading to other parts of the ward, but some fifty people died.

Statistics embodied in Leribe annual report.

W. BOXWELL,

Sub-Inspector B.M.P.

Butha Buthe,

July 3rd, 1899.

BASUTOLAND, 1898–9.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER, LERIBE, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1899.

The following table shows the number of attendances at the dispensary and hospital and the vaccinations performed during the year ending 30th June 1899 :—

New Cases.	Subsequent Attendances.	In-patients.	Vaccination.	Total.
2,360	376	52	10,046	12,834

The attendances at the dispensary and hospital were maintained at about the same numbers as in previous years.

The number of vaccinations was much increased, and in excess of that of any previous year. This was due to the epidemic of small-pox in the northern part of the district.

9,770 vaccinations were performed with glycerinated calf lymph, and 3,064 with humanized lymph.

The medical aspect of the work done has been fully treated in a report presented to His Honour the Resident Commissioner in March, and calls for no further remarks at present.

The statistics of the small-pox epidemic which prevailed in the Butha Buthe part of the district from September to March are now available, and are noted below :—

—	No.	—	No.
Villages infected	17	Population ...	1,268
Number vaccinated	936	Unvaccinated ...	332
„ attacked	175	Recovered ...	127
„ died	48		
„ recovered (vaccinated) ...	121	Number recovered (unvaccinated)	6
„ died (vaccinated)	8	Number died (unvaccinated)	40

The estimated population of the district is 41,043, comprising 96 Europeans, 32 Indians, and 40,915 natives. The birth-rate is 45·9 per 1,000, and the death-rate is 20·29 per 1,000.

N. M. MACFARLANE, M.D.,
Medical Officer.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1898-9.—BEREA.

After the disturbances of last year the present year has been uneventful.

In the early part of the year Phatso, son of Mota, a local headman in the district, fell out with his Chief (Mamathe) on a question of ploughing rights. The quarrel dragged on till eventually I went to the scene of dispute, and, in conjunction with Masupha, marked out a definite line between him and Mamathe. This particular quarrel is, however, only the outcome of long standing bad feeling between the disputants, and already I hear rumours of more misunderstandings between them. They are, however, of no very great importance.

With regard to the re-adjustment of boundary lines mentioned by me last year, Leshoboro has failed to avail himself, as yet, of the rights handed back to him. This is to be regretted, as the longer the time which is allowed to elapse before he assumes his rights, the more determined is likely to be the resistance of the people affected by it.

At the time of writing the Chief (Masupha) is dangerously ill. He has been suffering from inflammation of the lungs, and the weak state to which the attack has reduced him is very serious at his great age.

A small disturbance occurred last month at Leshoboro's, in which a man named Mafolosi was wounded by a gunshot, and has had to lose his foot. The case will be heard as soon as the man is out of hospital.

The present political crisis in the Transvaal is exercising the minds of the Basuto greatly, and much intelligent interest is displayed in the questions put by them on the subject. The air, of course, is full of rumours, more or less incorrect, as to the present state of affairs and future probabilities.

Small-pox appears to have got a strong hold on this district, it being brought from Johannesburg by natives returning from work. Fourteen deaths have been reported to me. During the year my men have vaccinated 7,800 persons in the district, mostly with calf lymph.

The number of passes issued at this office was as under :—

For the mines, Johannesburg	807
„ Kimberley...	121
„ Jagersfontein	280
For the coal mines, Cape Colony	—
For farm and domestic work	2,286
Total for labour	3,494
For visiting and other purposes	3,156
	6,650

BASUTO-LAND, 1898–9.

I am glad to say that Lerothodi's visit to Berea, and the general stoppage of Hut Tax allowances last year, had a good effect on the Hut Tax this year. Masupha, for the first time for some years past, has exerted himself, with satisfactory results as shown below :—

	£	s.	d.
Total Hut Tax collected	2,924	12	6
Arrears	556	10	0

Hut Tax was paid on 4,737 huts.

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	2,924	12	6
Licenses	289	5	0
Fees of Court or Office	1	12	6
Miscellaneous	51	14	0
	3,267	4	0

LICENSES.

The following licenses were issued :—

General traders...	22
Paid hawkers	5
Free hawkers	3

The police detachment in Berea consists of—

1 European Sub-Inspector.
1 „ Constable.
1 Native Sergeant.
1 „ Corporal.
23 Privates.

All the above are mounted, equipped, and efficient.

A small detachment has been for some time stationed near Hanger's Drift on the Caledon River. They have done good work, for though the actual arrests made by them are not numerous, their constant patrolling has done much to check the smuggling of liquor from Ladybrand into the district.

The following are the patrols carried out last year :—

Number of patrols		332
„ „ men engaged		781
Estimated distance travelled ...	miles	8,719
Arrests for Liquor Law		6
„ „ Pass Laws		15
„ „ other offences		7

The lost stock reported from the Free State was small. Return as under :—

Description.	Reported.	Traced to Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not re-covered.
Horses	3	1	1	2	2
Cattle	8	6	6	2	2

There has been a marked absence of serious crime as will be seen by the return of cases tried beneath.

Contravening Liquor Laws	9
Contravening Pass Laws	17
Theft	6
Robbery	2
Miscellaneous	5
Civil cases...	2

During the year 40 men were received into gaol.

In gaol at present	7
Prisoners convicted	24
„ discharged unconvicted ...	7
„ extradited	2

No floggings were administered.

The Free State border officials have given me all necessary assistance.

I have had no bona fide complaints during the year by Basuto of illtreatment when out of the Territory.

BASUTO-LAND, 1898–9.

There was some scarcity of food early in the year and there were undoubtedly isolated cases of want, but as mealies never rose above 25*s.* per muid it cannot be taken to have been anything really serious.

The present local prices of stock and produce are :—

Wheat ...	...	...	£1 5*s.* per muid.
Mealies	...	...	12*s.* „
Kafir corn	...	...	12*s.* „
Horses ...	...	...	£5 10*s.* and upwards.
Cattle ...	...	...	£6 10*s.* „
Sheep and goats		...	5*s.* to 20*s.* each.

The outlook for the present year is good, seasonable rain having fallen to help the sowing of wheat and breaking up of new land.

The roads on the whole are in good condition. A road party has been constantly at work on them during the year. The rains this year, though up to the average, were so equally divided that no month was much wetter than another, and so the roads escaped the scouring out of January and February.

My report on the schools in Berea has already been handed to you.

L. WROUGHTON,

Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1898-9.—MASERU.

With the exception of a few local disputes over gardens and thatching grass the peace of the district has been undisturbed.

The failure of last year's crops caused considerable want, and many persons had to part with their live stock for grain supplied by certain of our traders, which fortunately they had on hand.

This season's harvest of wheat was not good but is sufficient to replenish the seed supply. The crops of mealies and Kafir corn are exceptionally good.

Small-pox broke out in the Chief Bereng's ward in November, and subsequently at five other places. An epidemic was feared, but the enforcement of strict quarantine by the natives and vaccination carried out by the Government and missionaries had the effect of stamping it out.

Several large swarms of locusts, both flying and vœtgangers, appeared in the district during the months of December and January, but they did comparatively little damage. Fungus again had the desired effect and several swarms infected with it were exterminated.

Rinderpest is quite a thing of the past.

I regret to have to record the deaths of the Chiefs Bereng Letsie, and Lehloenya, both men of importance. The Chief Bereng, though formerly inclined to ignore the Government, latterly became very amenable, and rendered prompt assistance in enforcing law and order when called upon to do so. The Chief Lehloenya always proved to be a supporter of the Government, and was a good and faithful adviser of the Paramount Chief.

COMMERCIAL.

Trade has been fairly good and grain realised good prices. The following are the current prices of Basutoland produce :—

Cattle	£5 to £12
Horses	£10 to £15
Sheep	10*s.* to £1
Goats	5*s.* to 10*s.*
Wheat	15*s.* to 18*s.*
Mealies	10*s.* to 13*s.*
Kafir corn	
Wool	3*d.* per lb.
Mohair	6*d.* „

BASUTO-LAND, 1898-9.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The roads in the district have received continual attention during the year and are in good order.

POLICE.

The district detachment consists of :—

Sub-inspector	1
European constables	3
Native constables	2
Native sergeant	1
Native corporals	2
Native privates	46

The following particulars are of patrols performed during the year :—

Number of patrols	41
Number of men employed	119
Number of miles patrolled	1,636
Arrests (contravening Liquor Laws)	1
Arrests for other offences	5

The return below shows action taken in recovering lost and stolen stock :—

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered
Horses	19	2	17	2	17
Cattle	24	16	8	16*	8
Sheep	92	—	92	—	92
Goats	—	—	—	—	—

* 13 recovered before reported.

LICENCES.

The following licences were issued during the year :—

General traders	27
Paid hawkers	18
Free hawkers	62

CRIME.

The undermentioned cases were tried in this Court :—

Escape from custody	1
Theft	10
Housebreaking and theft	2
Contravening Police Offences Act	3
Contravening Basutoland Trading Regulations	9
Contravening Basutoland Pass Regulations	1
Assault	4
Obtaining money under false pretences ...	2
Culpable homicide	1
Resisting police	1
Contravening Post Office Act 4, 1882 ...	1
Civil cases	9

SUMMARY OF PASSES ISSUED.

Passes for the mines, Johannesburg ...	1,688
„ „ „ Kimberley	255
„ „ „ Jagersfontein ...	1,275
„ „ coal mines, Cape Colony ...	22
„ for farm and domestic service ...	3,465
Total passes for labour	6,705
Total passes for other purposes...	7,468
Total passes issued ...	14,173

REVENUE.

The revenue for the year amounts to £4,691 12*s.* 3*d.* and consists of :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut Tax	3,985	0	0
Licences	290	0	0
Fines	54	10	0
Ferry tolls	103	7	3
Fees of court or office	5	8	6
Miscellaneous	253	6	6
Total	£4,691	12	3

Tax was paid on 7,562 huts. The amount of arrear tax collected is £265.

Relations with the officials of bordering States continue friendly.

GAOL RETURN.

Number of prisoners received into gaol during the year	41
„ „ „ convicted and sentenced	36
„ „ „ discharged unconvicted	5
„ in gaol on 30th June 1899	15

No floggings were inflicted.

C. GRIFFITH,
Assistant Commissioner.

Assistant Commissioner's Office, Maseru,
30th June 1899.

REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER, BASUTOLAND, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE 1899.

The purely medical portion of the annual reports being now embodied in a report which is made at the end of each calendar year, only statistics and a general review of the medical work are here dealt with.

The number of attendances at the dispensaries shows a slight increase, and the amount collected in fees is considerably in excess of that for the corresponding period embraced in the last report.

Vaccination continues to be vigorously enforced wherever possible. The value of this preventive measure is yearly becoming more and more appreciated by the inhabitants.

Small-pox has been prevalent, notably in the Leribe district, but in each epidemic, owing to the careful steps taken to isolate the infected villages, it has been confined to comparatively small areas.

There has been no other epidemic disease which calls for special notice here.

The additional hospital accommodation, in the form of operating rooms at Mohale's Hoek, Mafeteng, and Leribe, has partially met a long felt want. There is still, however, occasion for considerable improvements, notably in the direction of a nursing staff of some kind and better furnishing of the existing wards.

The plan of having a native nurse in charge of the ward at the Maseru Hospital, which has now been on its trial for some time, is found to work admirably, and, if funds admitted, could be advantageously extended to the other district hospitals.

With the increasing number of attendances and large amount of surgical work which is now done in the country, the present amount voted for drugs, surgical appliances, and wages only suffices by the exercise of the most rigid economy, and it is easy to understand how great economy in the use of drugs, &c. is likely to lead to inefficiency in the treatment of disease.

The health of the police force in the country has been good.

With the exception of a few cases of diarrhœa and dysentery among the prisoners at Mafeteng, due to the bad water supply at that station owing to the very severe drought during the latter part of 1898, there has been but little or no sickness in the gaols.

I append a return showing the number of patients attended during the year, together with a comparison of the preceding year's figures.

EDWARD C. LONG,
Principal Medical Officer.

TABLE SHOWING ATTENDANCES, WITH A COMPARISON OF THE PRECEDING YEAR'S FIGURES.

District.	New Cases.		Subsequent Attendance.		In-patients.		Vaccinations.	
	1897–8.	1898–9.	1897–8.	1898–9.	1897–8.	1898–9.	1897–8.	1898–9.
Leribe	2,430	2,360	365	376	65	52	2,416	9,770
Maseru	3,991	3,715	1,589	1,660	105	117	2,105	13,282
Mafeteng	2,943	3,266	1,156	1,196	96	72	7,706	12,188
Mohale's Hoek	1,702	2 132	281	293	28	39	3,432	3,386
Quthing	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,000	—
Total	11,066	11,473	3,391	3,525	294	280	16,659	38,626

ANNUAL REPORT.—MAFETENG DISTRICT.

During the past twelve months this district was not seriously disturbed by political events.

The attitude of chiefs and people was peaceable through a trying period while ordinary food was very scarce and dear, and when, owing to protracted drought, there was but slight hope of last season's crops maturing. Many native families removed to districts where they could more readily obtain food, and several thousands of the male population went to the neighbouring States to work, and thence they remitted money to their relatives at home. In the aggregate, remittances through the Assistant Commissioner's Office alone came to a considerable amount, and money was also sent through other channels. Eventually rain fell in time to save a portion of the district crops, and although a comparatively meagre harvest was gathered, still the people have sufficient food at the present time.

Chief Letsie, the eldest son of the Paramount Chief, is inclined to be troublesome sometimes in local matters, and I have referred in previous reports to some of his misdemeanours. Last May I again found it necessary to check Letsie because he was protecting and encouraging native brandy sellers in his ward, secretly intimidating my police, and also preventing his people from taking their grain to shops to get money for tax, and to pay debts due for seed wheat which European traders had generously given out on credit last year. I first remonstrated with Letsie, but, finding he was obstinate, I subsequently, with the approval of the Resident Commissioner, suspended him from his position of native police officer and stopped his pay. All known canteens in Letsie's ward were raided by police and messengers of the Paramount Chief, and the smugglers were arrested and punished. These brandy canteens were all on a small scale, and similar places existed in other parts of the district, where the illicit sellers took warning and stopped the traffic before they could be detected. Brandy sold at these native villages was purchased by the smugglers in the Orange Free State and the Cape Colony and conveyed into this territory by various secret devices in order to escape the vigilance of our Border Police patrols.

No case of serious violence towards Basuto in the Orange Free State has come to my notice, but several complaints relating to the detention of property have been made by Basuto. A return of such cases is attached to this report.

The Basuto are keen observers, and the political agitation in South African States has not failed to attract their attention and excite their curiosity.

The public roads received the usual attention, and have been maintained and kept in order.

A new gaol was built at the Magistracy, and Government buildings and the water service at this station underwent sundry repairs and improvements.

Education and religious instruction is carried on energetically by the various mission societies. I have inspected and furnished a separate report on 26 Government aided schools in this district.

The strength of the police detachment at this Magistracy is :—

Sub-inspector	1
European constables	2
Native officer	1
Native sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ privates	31
„ constable	1

The police continue to perform good and useful service, as the following statistics will show :—

Number of patrols	199
Number of men employed	430
Number of miles patrolled	8,641
Number of arrests	20

The undermentioned cases came before the Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Civil cases	4
Contravening Liquor Laws	11
Theft	11
Homicide	2
Contravening Act 14 of 1885 (I.D.B.) ...	4
Other crimes	6

No. of prisoners received in gaol during year ending 30th June 1899	29
No. of prisoners convicted and sentenced	25
No. of prisoners discharged unconvicted	2
No. of prisoners in gaol on 30th June 1899 ...	8

No floggings were inflicted.

I append a return showing result of action taken in tracing lost and stolen stock :—

Description.	Reported.	Traced to Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses ...	7	2	5	2	5
Cattle ...	5	5	—	5	—
Sheep and goats	14	4	10	4	10

Licences issued were as under :—

General traders	23
Paid hawkers	6
Free hawkers (including cattle buyers)...	73

Generally speaking, the year was not commercially favourable to resident traders, but cattle buyers from the Cape Colony and Orange Free State bought the stock largely and paid good prices for the same.

Wheat has been extensively sown this winter under favourable conditions, and should rains come in due season there will probably be an abundant crop.

Government purchased and distributed good seed wheat to poor persons who had none.

The rainfall at Mafeteng for twelve months ended 30th June 1899 was 23·22 inches.

The following table shows current prices of produce and stock :—

	£	s.	d.
Wheat, per bag	1	0	0
Mealies „	0	17	6
Kafir corn „	0	17	6
Barley „	0	10	0
Oats „	0	15	0
Slaughter cattle	10	0	0
Horses	6	10	0
Sheep	0	12	6
Goats	0	7	6
Wool, per lb.	0	0	5
Mohair „	0	0	9

BASUTOLAND, 1898–9.

I attach a return of revenue collected :—

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	3,436	0	0
Licences	236	0	0
Fines	77	2	3
Fees	8	19	6
Miscellaneous	236	6	0
Total	£3,994	8	6

Tax was paid on 6,710 huts. Arrear tax collected amounts to £116 10*s*.

The under-mentioned number of natives obtained passes at the Assistant Commissioner's Office to leave this territory :—

Men for the mines, Johannesburg	677
„ „ „ „ Kimberley	266
„ „ „ „ Jagersfontein	1,675
„ „ coal mines, Cape Colony	42
„ „ farm and domestic service	4,158
„ „ other purposes	9,162
Women for farm and domestic service... ...	972
„ „ other purposes	533
Total passes	17,485

T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

Assistant Commissioner's Office, Mafeteng,
4th July 1899.

RETURN OF COMPLAINTS MADE BY NATIVES OF MAFETENG DISTRICT AGAINST PEOPLE IN THE ORANGE FREE STATE DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1899.

1.—8th April 1899.

Lefu of Letsie's made complaint that he had taken two large bullocks to exchange for young cattle in Wepener, where he had arranged with one Spiller to exchange them for two head of cattle and £7 10*s*. He was given by Spiller two young bullocks and a saddle and bridle, which he refused to accept. On attempting to take his own bullocks back he was arrested and lodged in gaol.

On the Assistant Commissioner, Mafeteng, writing to the Landdrost of Wepener, Lefu was discharged, the Landdrost inquiring into his case, with the result that decision was given against Lefu, and he was ordered to take the two young bullocks and the saddle or cash. He took the bullocks and cash. Lefu

lost by this transaction as the bullocks and cash he got did not amount to the value of the two bullocks he had bartered.

Agents in Wepener refused to take up Lefu's case, and the Assistant Commissioner infers that they did so because Spiller is an influential man in Wepener.

2.—10th April 1899.

April of Leduma's complained that he had worked six months for one Van der Merwe of the farm "Brandywyn," Rouxville District, O.F.S. He had earned a heifer which Van der Merwe refused to give him. A letter from the Assistant Commissioner to the Field Cornet Greyling was given to April, who then returned to his master who promised to pay the heifer if April would work for a further term at 10*s.* per month. He did so, and at the end of two months received £1. He asked for a pass to return to Basutoland with his heifer, but his master refused, and the elder Van der Merwe then told him he could return without a pass. He took his heifer and came to Basutoland. Van der Merwe followed him and tried to induce April to return to work, but, failing in this, he came to the office at Mafeteng and complained that April had stolen his brother-in-law's heifer and had left his own behind. April made a statement and produced evidence to show that he had only taken the heifer which had been pointed out to him.

The Assistant Commissioner wrote to the Landdrost at Rouxville *re* the matter, who is communicating with Van der Merwe.

3.—20th April 1899.

Rimpi of Mojela's complained that while working at Robertson's Mill, Jammerberg Drift, he had lost a horse which he afterwards found in the possession of "Doki," a native working at Hoffman's Farm. He got a pass from Messrs. Robertson to search for the horse, but when he claimed it Hoffman sent for the police and he was lodged in gaol at Wepener. Subsequently, on receipt of a letter from the Assistant Commissioner, Mafeteng, the Landdrost released Rimpi and told him he could employ an agent. Mr. Chase, J.C., was employed by Rimpi, and the case was heard by the Landdrost who gave judgment against Rimpi, who had to pay costs amounting to £20. The Assistant Commissioner advised Rimpi to take the case to higher courts, but he said he had not the money to defray expenses.

Subsequent enquiries, made by direction of the Resident Commissioner, revealed the fact that there was conflicting evidence as to the identity of the horse and that no good object was likely to be served by further pursuing the case.

T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

Mafeteng,
30th June 1899.

BASUTO-LAND. 1898–9.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER, MAFETENG, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1899.

DISPENSARY.

The number of attendances at the Government Dispensary here during the past twelve months was 4,462. Of these the number of new cases is 3,266. The remainder are "repeats," 1,196.

HOSPITAL.

As hospital in-patients were received 72 natives, almost exclusively surgical cases.

In 53 cases operations were necessary and were performed. The deaths in hospital during the year were six.

VACCINATIONS.

During this period 5,188 vaccination certificates were issued.

Besides this number, there were vaccinated or re-vaccinated freely some 7,000 of all ages.

EPIDEMICS.

An outbreak of smallpox occurred at Major's village; there were 23 cases with five deaths. Vaccination and quarantine prevented spreading.

A few cases of typhoid fever occurred, in most cases brought back from mining and other centres; two deaths.

A small epidemic of chicken-pox caused no deaths.

POLICE.

The health of the police detachment here has, on the whole, been good.

During the drought (in December and January especially, to my knowledge) there was much diarrhœa and other bowel sickness

amongst both the adult and infant population of the camp. The infant mortality in the camp was higher during that time than since. The exceptionally severe drought was the sufficiently evident cause; our water supply at that time leaving much to be desired, both as regards quantity and quality.

PRISONERS.

During the worst part of the drought diarrhœa and dysentery were prevalent among the prisoners in goal.

Boiling their drinking water was ordered, and was followed by a great diminution in the sickness rate. With the return of a plentiful water supply after the rains came the trouble disappeared.

D. M. TOMORY.

Medical Officer.

BASUTO-LAND, 1898–9.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1898-9.—MOHALE'S HOEK.

In the early part of the year just ended, the district was again suffering from drought, no rain having fallen since the early part of the preceding month of April, the wheat prospect was in consequence very gloomy, and at the following harvest very little wheat was reaped throughout the district; the Bataung and part of the Bamohale ward fared a little better than the rest of the district. On the whole the crop was a failure, and the bulk of the wheat for local consumption had to be imported.

In July, Mocheko caused a lot of trouble by reporting that his life was in danger owing to threats from Griffith Lerothodi, and that he had in consequence fled with his stock to Palmietfontein, in the Herschel district. This matter was at once investigated, when Mocheko's pretended alarm was proved to be groundless, and he was reprimanded for his false reports.

In August rain fell, and mealie and kafir corn sowing commenced in earnest, high hopes being entertained for a good season.

In September a Free State burgher, who was discovered selling brandy to natives of Basutoland, was reported to the Landdrost of Wepener; he was tried and convicted through evidence from this office. He was at the same time committed on a charge of gun running also to natives of this territory, but was acquitted by the jury at the Circuit Court, though the evidence and summing up of the judge were dead against him.

Rain again fell during this month.

In November, Hut Tax was fairly started and pushed on with vigour, and came in satisfactorily; by the end of January the bulk was in.

Mocheko continued very troublesome by constantly making complaints against Griffith; these complaints were enquired into, but always found to be of little or no consequence or importance.

In December the Paramount Chief sent messengers to institute thorough enquiry into Mocheko's complaints against Griffith; the result was the same, no satisfactory grounds could be found.

In January the district was visited by large swarms of locusts. Dr. Edington's locust fungus was largely used; no actual proof of its efficacy was observed, though reports from other districts were much in its favour.

Food at this time was very scarce and dear and the natives caught large quantities of these insects for food, and the visitation was viewed by many as a providential intervention.

In February rain again fell, but as it had kept off so long the crops nearly all over the district were much injured and too far gone for recovery; but sufficient for local use was saved, and I do not fear hunger, which at one time threatened.

The intense dry heat of summer destroyed all chances of a good harvest, and in consequence, little or no grain has been offered for sale in the district.

In May the Resident Commissioner, accompanied by the Paramount Chief and most of the principal chiefs of Basutoland or their representatives, arrived from Maseru. The object of this visit was the formal placing of the young chief Griffith as caretaker over the Baphuti and Baposhodi wards in this district.

A preliminary pitso was held at Sekoati's, at which I was present, and the object of the visit announced to those present. On the 8th of the month a very large and representative pitso was held at the young chief's village when he was formally placed. Mocheko attempted to disorganize the pitso by calling upon all Baphuti to rise, but was promptly suppressed by the determined action of the Resident Commissioner, who ordered all to sit down; Mocheko, being left to his own resources, afterwards sat down. Great indignation was felt by all at Mocheko's conduct. The Resident Commissioner notified at the close of the pitso that the young chief's area would be properly defined by the magistrate of the district together with representatives of the Paramount Chief.

In June I proceeded to Rouxville with witnesses against a Free State burgher who had been run in for gun smuggling. The prisoner, who had no defence, pleaded guilty, and the papers were referred to the State Attorney.

On the 12th of this month I proceeded to define the area of Griffith Lerothodi's caretaking. I was accompanied by messengers of the Paramount Chief, Native Officer Mohapi Letsie, and four police; Griffith sent Mabidikoe as his messenger. The boundary has been clearly defined, and full report, with sketch map, will be sent in in terms of instructions from the Resident Commissioner.

The autumn rains have been most favourable for wheat sowing, and a considerable quantity has been put in and looks very well.

Relations with bordering officials continue satisfactory.

Smuggling in guns, ammunition, and liquor continues; in the attempt to suppress this evil I have lately been assisted considerably by the co-operation of the Free State Police.

Education receives the usual attention and support. All the schools in the district have been inspected, and in some cases good improvement was noticed.

Many passes have been issued during the year for labour and other purposes—numbers as per schedule.

The roads have received the usual attention and, considering the natural difficulties in the way of good roads, may be said to be in good order.

The stock is in exceptionally good condition owing to the luxuriant state of the pasturage since February. A great many slaughter oxen have been bought up in the district and sent to the different markets.

Schedules of the various returns will be found below :—

PASSES ISSUED.

For the mines, Johannesburg	443
„ Kimberley	257
„ Jagersfontein	1,108
For coal mines, Cape Colony	347
For farm and domestic service	2,639
Total number for labour ...	4,794
For visiting and other purposes ...	4,986
Total number issued	9,780

RETURN OF PATROLS.

Number of patrols	114
Number of men engaged	203
Estimated distance travelled	7,545 miles
Arrests for contravening liquor laws ...	11
„ „ pass „ ...	41
Other arrests	21
Total	73

RETURN OF LOST STOCK REPORTED.

Description.	Reported.	Traced to Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not re-covered.
Horses	9	2	7	2	7
Sheep and goats	96	—	96	10	86

NOTE.—26 of the sheep and goats reported recovered in adjacent territories

RETURN OF CASES TRIED IN THE ASSISTANT-COMMISSIONER'S COURT.

Civil cases	1
Theft	11
Resisting police	9
Contravening liquor regulations	9
Contempt of court	1
Contravening firearms regulations ...	1
Fraud	1
Contravening gaol regulations	1
Contravening pass regulations	39

LICENCES ISSUED.

General traders	14
Paid hawkers	9
Free „	6
Dam licences	2

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	3,767	10	0
Licences...	157	0	0
Fines	113	9	6
Ferry tolls		13	0
Fees of court or office	3	2	6
Miscellaneous	124	11	0
Total ...	£4,166	6	0

Arrear Hut Tax collected ... £123 10*s.*

Number of huts upon which tax was paid, 7,337

CURRENT PRICE OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

	£	s.	d.
Oxen	10	0	0
Cows and young cattle	6	10	0
Sheep		12	6
Goats		10	6
Horses	8	10	0
Wheat	1	2	6
Mealies	0	15	0
Kafir corn	0	18	0
Barley		12	0
Oats		12	0

GAOL RETURN.

Number of prisoners received into gaol ...	30
„ „ convicted and sentenced	21
Surrendered under Fugitive Offenders Act to adjacent territories (Cape Colony))	4
Discharged, unconvicted...	3
Number of prisoners in gaol on 30th June, 1899	10

Summary of cases reported at this office by natives against residents in adjacent territories :—

10th August 1898. Horse stolen from Griffith's village and sold to Van Tonder.—Recovered and restored to owner.

15th November 1898. 2 cattle stolen from Mocheko and sold to Schoeman.—Both recovered and restored to owner.

30th May 1899. 2 horses stolen from Monehela's ward and sold to a native in Herschel.—Referred to Resident Magistrate, Herschel, requesting his assistance ; correspondence still in progress.

RETURN OF FLOGGINGS.

Nil.

POLICE DETACHMENT.

European sub-inspector	1
European constable	1
Native officer	1
Native sergeant	1
Native corporal	1
Native lance-corporals	2
Native first-class privates...	2
Native second-class privates	18

J. W. BOWKER,
Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTO-LAND, 1898–9.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER, MOHALE'S HOEK, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1899.

The following comparative statistics are of work done at the Mohale's Hoek Dispensary during the last two years ending 30th June, 1899 :—

TABLE SHOWING ATTENDANCE UNDER DIFFERENT HEADS FOR PERIOD MENTIONED.

—	1897–8.	1898–9.	Increase.	Decrease.
New cases	1,702	2,132	430	—
Subsequent attendances ...	281	293	12	—
In-patients	28	39	11	—
Vaccination	3,432	2,850	—	582
Vaccination free	—	536	536	—
Totals	5,443	5,850	989	582

The table shows a marked increase over the preceding twelve months for medical attendance, showing an increase of a little over 25 per cent. of the previous year's total for out-patients, and more than same percentage for in-patients.

The number of vaccination certificates issued was considerably below last year's number.

There was little free vaccination performed in the district, all that was done being in camp; the chiefs not availing themselves of the opportunity offered.

Of 39 in-patients, 32 were discharged and 2 greatly improved; 2 were not improved. Two refused to stay long enough to receive benefit, and one was discharged on account of refusing an operation.

Chloroform was administered 39 times; there were no mishaps.

W. R. NATTLE,
Medical Officer.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1898-9.—QUTHING.

GENERAL.

The year generally speaking has been an uneventful one as regards this district, and there have been few occurrences worthy of note.

1. By the enforced removal of a village belonging to one Raphera from the vicinity of the chief Lefuyane's place in August, 1898, the Resident Commissioner confirmed a judgment of the Paramount Chief which had been evaded for several years, and affirmed the useful principle that no one can be permitted to reside on the land of a chief to whom he refuses allegiance.

2. There is still occasional friction in the Tambookie ward, Mjanyane, between the sons of the late chief Tyali. A faction fight which took place in that ward in February, in which a son of Mpeto Tyali was killed, caused some excitement at the time, but the case was ultimately dealt with by the District Court deputed by the Resident Commissioner.

3. Liquor smuggling from the Colonial border villages is unfortunately rather on the increase, in spite of the endeavours of the Basutoland authorities to check it. This subject was fully reported on to headquarters on the 19th May last.

The Baphuti chief Moeletsi Tsekoa was recently cautioned by the Resident Commissioner for neglect of duty in connection with certain cases of liquor running on the Barkly East border.

4. The practice referred to in my Annual Report for the year ending 30th June, 1897, of illtreating prisoners in Chief's Courts, for the purpose of extorting confessions or implicating other persons, still prevails to some extent, and cases of this nature have been reported during the year.

5. On the 10th June, 1899, Griffith, a son of the Paramount Chief, residing in the adjacent district of Mohale's Hoek, crossed the Orange River into this district with a number of men and raided the village of Nehemiah Moshesh, near Moirosis Mountain, carrying off a considerable quantity of live stock and assaulting Nehemiah and several of his followers more or less severely. No resistance appears to have been attempted by the persons attacked, and no sufficient motive is alleged for the raid, which is supposed to have been organized for the purpose of punishing Nehemiah for suspected connection with recent political agitation in the Mohale's Hoek district.

RELATIONS WITH BORDERING STATES.

Cordial relations continue with the neighbouring territories, and mutual facilities are afforded for the tracing of criminals and the recovery of lost stock.

Correspondence has been caused through certain farmers on the Barkly East border sending their stock through the fence, which they presumably broke down for the purpose, to graze on the Basutoland side of the line. This is a practice calculated to lead to losses of stock from both sides of the border, besides increasing the difficulty of patrolling and giving rise to vague accusations of theft, when stock stray through the broken fence, and are temporarily missed by their owners.

AGRICULTURE.

The severe winter of 1898 was followed by a disastrous drought which lasted until March, 1899. The earlier crops were almost an entire failure, and although the frost, which usually sets in early in April, was delayed this year until the 18th May, both maize and kafir corn were so retarded in their growth by the dry summer that the harvest now being gathered is more or less a scanty one.

The live stock in the country is generally in good order. Since the autumn rains set in the pasturage has improved, and is likely to last through the winter in such locations as are not overstocked. The general class of stock among the Basuto is not improving owing principally to careless breeding. Until some inducement is held out to natives, either in the form of prizes at agricultural shows or in other ways, to tempt them to improve the quality of their stock, they are likely to continue their present haphazard method indefinitely.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The main roads in the district are in passable order, and temporary repairs have been effected on some of the branch roads and bridle paths.

Certain necessary alterations and additions have been made to the public buildings at this station.

The waterworks have maintained a fair supply in spite of the severe drought of last summer and previous dry years.

MEDICAL.

Owing to the recent departure for England of the late Acting Medical Officer, no medical report can be furnished. Vaccination has been extensively carried on both at the Government dispensary and at native villages, where Police have been temporarily detailed to cultivate arm to arm treatment.

EDUCATION.

Reports on the Government aided schools have been recently sent in to headquarters. The Industrial School of the French Protestant Mission had the misfortune to lose its Director, Mr. E. W. Kruger, through an accident with firearms in October, 1898. This gentleman's death is a serious loss to the Mission and is generally regretted.

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	2,443	10	0
Licenses	141	0	0
Fines	58	14	6
Ferry tolls	142	5	6
Fees of court or office	2	2	0
Miscellaneous receipts	65	17	0
Total ...	£2,853	9	0

Arrear tax collected £36 10 0

Number of huts on which tax was paid ... 4,814

LOST AND STOLEN STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced to Basuto-land.	Not Traced.	Re-covered.	Not Recovered.
Horses ...	12	2	10	2	10
Cattle ...	7	1	6	1	6
Sheep ...	363	—	363	—	363

NOTE.—In all probability these sheep had strayed and were afterwards recovered by the owners.

PASSES ISSUED.

For the mines, Johannesburg	...	...		59
„ Kimberley ...	...	...		48
„ Jagersfontein	...	...		30
For the coal mines, Cape Colony ...	...			602
For farm and domestic service, &c.	...			1,500
				2,239
For other purposes...	...	...	...	8,124
Total	...	...		10,363

RETURN OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES.

Civil actions	3
Culpable homicide	1
Theft	18
Accessory after fact to theft	15
Concerned in fight in which life was taken ...	7
Attempting to obtain property under false pretences	1
Contravening liquor laws	7
„ firearms regulations	2
„ customs regulations	1
„ pass laws	14
Assault	1
Obstructing police	2
Causing contravention of customs regulations ...	1

LICENSES ISSUED.

General traders...	14
Paid hawkers	1
Free hawkers	1

CURRENT PRICES OF PRODUCE.

Wheat	20*s.* a bag.
Mealies	20*s.* „
Kafir corn	25*s.* „
Horses	£8 to £15 each.
Cattle...	£6 to £12 „
Sheep...	18*s.* to 20*s.* „
Goats...	10*s.* to 15*s.* „
Wool	3*d.* per lb.
Mohair	9*d.* „
Forage	25*s.* to 40*s.* a 100 bundles.

RETURN OF PATROLS.

Number of patrols	78
Number of men engaged	137
Estimated distance travelled... ...	4,858 miles.
Arrests for contravening liquor laws	7
„ „ pass laws	23
„ other offences	25

RETURN OF FLOGGINGS.

Nil.

GAOL RETURN.

Number of prisoners received into gaol ...	70
„ „ convicted and sentenced	66
„ „ discharged, unconvicted	4
„ „ in gaol on 30th June ...	7

POLICE DETACHMENT.

European sub-inspector	1
„ constable	1
Native non-commissioned officers	3
„ privates	21

S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTO-LAND, 1898-9.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1898-9.—QACHA'S NEK.

By direction of his honour the Resident Commissioner, I arrived at this station on the 10th April and took over the duties from Mr. Moony, who had been granted leave.

Nothing of any importance has happened in this district during the past twelve months.

Towards the end of July, chief Mpiti took up arms and proceeded with his men to Na.:a's Village, to await an attack he was expecting from the chief Sekake, who happily never approached. Upon Government and the chief Makhaola Lerothodi persuading Mpiti to withdraw his contingent, he quietly retired home. He and his followers were subsequently fined for taking up arms.

Notwithstanding that the wards of the above-mentioned chiefs have been definitely defined, it has been the source of much quarrelling.

The Baphuti chief, Mocheko, residing in Mohale's Hoek district, had grievances against the placing of Griffith Lerothodi, and incited the clan living under his brother Thibateri, in this district, over whom he has no control.

Thibateri, who was foolish enough to obey the unauthorised orders of Mocheko, has been dealt with by the Paramount Chief.

In August the Cape Government placed guards at the principal gates along the Border Fence, and prevented all sheep and goats from entering East Griqualand, unless the owners could produce a certificate to the effect that the stock had been dipped.

The stationing of guards may be a check on theft of stock and liquor smuggling, but will not deter determined peop'e. The fence has been cut often, but there is nothing to prove that it can be attributed more to the residents of Basutoland, than to the inhabitants of the Cape Colony.

In March, a case of small-pox was reported at Mpiti's ward. The area was promptly quarantined and the surrounding natives were vaccinated. The patient succumbed, and the much dreaded disease died out.

The police continue to perform their duties satisfactorily, but need for more men has been felt more than once.

No cases of ill-treatment of Basutoland natives in neighbouring territories have been reported at this office.

There are two Government aided schools in this district. A night school for the police has lately been started.

The harvest has not been altogether successful, owing to the severe drought last summer and early frosts. No hunger is anticipated, as there are very fair crops in Matatiele district, and our natives have been purchasing freely.

Hut Tax shows an increase of £150 on last year. Revenue collected is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	1,450	0	0
Licences	30	0	0
Fines	40	13	0
Fees	0	12	6
Miscellaneous	35	4	3
Total	£1,556	9	9

Amount of arrear tax collected, 60*l.* 10*s.*

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 2,779.

There are two licensed general traders in the district.

Ten paid hawkers' licences have been issued.

RETURN OF LOST STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	8	3	5	3	3°
Cattle	2	2	—	2	—
Sheep	27	9	18	9	18†

° Two recovered in Cape Colony.
† 18 killed by tigers in East Griqualand.

The following cases were tried in this Court :—

Civil actions	2
Theft	8
Assault	2
Resisting police	2
Illegal seizure	1
Damaging fence	2
Attempted fraud	1
Contravening liquor laws	4
Contravening pass laws	5
Contravening hawkers' regulations ...	2

BASUTOLAND, 1898–9.

The following are the current prices of Basutoland produce and stock :—

Wheat	15*s.* per bag.
Mealies...	10*s.* „
Kafir corn	10*s.* „
Ponies	£3 to £9
Cattle	£5 to £14
Sheep	10*s.* to 20*s.*
Goats	7*s.* to 15*s.*
Wool	4½*d.* per lb.
Mohair...	11*d.* „
Forage (100 bundles)	12*s.* 6*d.*

RETURN OF PASSES ISSUED.

For mines—Johannesburg	77
„ Jagersfontein	55
„ Kimberley	15
For the coal mines—Cape Colony ...	575
For farm and domestic service ...	635
For visiting and other purposes ...	9,082
Total passes issued	10,439

This shows a very large increase on last year's return, owing to scarcity of food.

RETURN OF PATROLS.

Number of Patrols.	Number of Men.	Estimated Miles.	Arrests.		
			Liquor Laws.	Pass Laws.	Other Offences.
88	128	5,133	4	5	8

The detachment consists of :—

Sub-Inspector	1
Corporal	1
Privates	13

LICENCES ISSUED.

General traders' licences	2
Hawkers' licences...	10

GAOL RETURN.

Number of prisoners received in gaol during year ended 30th June, 1899 ...	34
Number convicted and sentenced ...	26
Number discharged	8
Number in gaol on 30th June, 1899 ...	5

No floggings were inflicted.

E. D'U. BLYTH,
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Qacha's Nek,
30th June, 1899.

LONDON:
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BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 1-8, GREAT ST. THOMAS APOSTLE, E.C.

1900.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 313.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1899-1900.

(For Report for 1898–99, *see* No. 288.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
January, 1901.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been recently issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
292	British New Guinea	1898–99
293	Bermuda	1899
294	Barbados	,,
295	Malta	,,
296	Fiji	,,
297	Turks and Caicos	,,
298	Bahamas...	,,
299	Sierra Leone	,,
300	Gambia	,,
301	Seychelles	,,
302	Mauritius and Rodrigues	,,
303	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
304	Straits Settlements	,,
305	Gibraltar...	,,
306	Gold Coast	,,
307	Ceylon	,,
308	Leeward Islands	,,
309	St. Helena	,,
310	British Honduras	,,
311	St. Lucia...	,,
312	St. Vincent	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.

No. 313.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1898 99, *see* No. 288.)

GOVERNOR SIR ALFRED MILNER to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,
Cape Town,
12th September, 1900.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to enclose for your information a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner, Basutoland, transmitting the Annual Report on Basutoland for the year ended 30th June last.

I have, &c.,
A. MILNER,
Governor and High Commissioner

6993—800—10/1900 Wt 24600 D & S 5 A 2

BASUTO-LAND, 1899–1900.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Basutoland,
August, 1900.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit Your Excellency my Report upon British Basutoland for the year ended 30th June, 1900, covering reports of the Government Secretary (with statistics), Assistant Commissioners, and Medical Officers.

POLITICAL.

The report for this year resolves itself almost entirely into a history of the relations of this territory to the war between Great Britain and the Republics.

Before the actual declaration of war in October last it had become a matter of common talk by the Free State Boers who live in close proximity along 200 miles of our border. They spoke of it in a light-hearted way, beginning early to assure the Basuto chiefs that the result was inevitable and that that result would be fatal to the English. Full of confidence in themselves and the future, they started a train of intrigue designed to win the natives to their side and shake their faith in British power. As the crisis approached the natives got more and more nervous. The story of Majuba and its sequel was kept green in their mind; the thoughts of Republican ascendancy were distracting. That the Basuto nation was at heart more loyal to the English than to the Dutch could never be doubted. But history had taught its lessons from which it was fairly deduced that there lay a great danger to natives in being on the losing side. No more reasonable ground than uncertainty was therefore required for them to affect the deepest loyalty to the Queen whilst exhibiting secretly to the enemy a coquettish and friendly disposition until time should reveal the dominant race in South Africa. For many years it had appeared doubtful whether the dominance lay with the English or Dutch.

As the end is now approaching by which the position of Great Britain in South Africa is to be more clearly defined and maintained, it seems undesirable to be too critical in illustrating individual intrigue. Generally speaking, I do not believe that there were any chiefs in Basutoland who were not approached by the Boers with the object of misleading, of distorting the real question at issue, of disparaging the power of England, and of courting them to the Republican side by means of threats and seductive promises. I could hold no public meeting without scores of native spies sent by the Boers being present to make mischief; every effort on our part to check border traffic and avoid

complications was undermined by the Free Staters encouraging the natives to defy our orders; tokens were sent to the chiefs which would pass their messengers freely into Boer camps; and, finally, Republican proclamations, of which I attach a sample, with garbled stories of British reverses printed in Sesuto, were circulated by authority of President Steyn and disseminated discreetly in this territory. Both the Paramount Chief and Jonathan Molapo confided to me that they had received from Free State officials messages in the name of the President to the effect that the Basuto chiefs must quickly choose their side; delay would be disastrous; if they took the English side it would be fatal to them.

It would be idle to doubt that the mass of perverted intelligence and intrigue held influence upon the minds of the natives, who were at the same time not altogether proof against the alluring enjoyment of seeing the European races at each other's throats. The black populations, though fortunately lacking in power of combination, are capable of taking a shrewd and comprehensive view of affairs relating to themselves, and, whilst thinking slowly, hold a good deal of unseen communion with each other. It is probable that the Basuto, who are the only unbroken tribe, were sounded by dissaffected clans for a lead, which, if given, might have clouded South Africa with a black terror and tended to deflect the course of the war between the whites. In this contingency may be read a meaning into President Kruger's celebrated expression about the "staggering of humanity."

In my opinion nothing contributed more to steady the natives than the conflicting accounts of the fighting and the contradictory features that were manifest. The Boer reports overreached themselves by exaggeration and untruth. On the other hand, the early series of British reverses were conspicuous, whilst thousands of soldiers were seen and known to have been marched as prisoners to Pretoria. To counteract this again there was the patent fact, vouched for by persons of undoubted veracity, that each day brought its stream of troops to the shores of the Cape. At last the Basuto began to discredit all reports and became bewildered by the magnitude and varying conditions of the war.

The policy to be observed in Basutoland, as indicated to me by Your Excellency, was clearly enunciated and consistently adhered to. Happily for us, my urgent appeal for leave to erect a telegraph line through the territory met with instant approval. The material for its construction had barely scraped over the border before the war broke out. It was rapidly put up, and through its agency, together with the addition of those most useful instruments called Phonopores, I was able to hold hourly conversation with the District Magistrates and they with each other. We were then in a position to deal promptly with

BASUTO-LAND, 1899–1900.

all momentous questions as they arose and in daily converse to grapple collectively with difficulties and problems in a manner that no amount of letter writing and horse expresses could ever have accomplished.

The High Commissioner's instructions to me were :—

That the chiefs be informed that this was a white man's war in which natives were not to take part ;

That if Basutoland were invaded by the Boers the natives were entitled to defend themselves and hold the country for the Queen ;

That the border was not to be violated by the Basuto.

These instructions were communicated by me personally to the whole nation, and were throughout obeyed in principle. Casual thieves occasionally broke away and stole cattle from deserted farms, but most of them were brought to book.

From information at our disposal, there was reason to believe that the Boers designed, particularly after their first successes, to seize and depose the Basutoland Magistrates, whose stations are all situate on the border, and dictate temporary terms to the Basuto pending final arrangements after the English in South Africa had been effectively dealt with.

As it was manifestly of vital importance to hold Maseru, the headquarters of Administration, it was determined to take measures for its defence. We had only 37 white men and 50 native police. Some small forts were constructed, armed, and provisioned. The Paramount Chief offered a body of several thousand men to mount guard. I deemed it best, however, to avoid warlike demonstration, and accepted only Lerothodi's brother Mojela, his son Api, and 60 men, holding the mass in reserve for immediate summons if required. I do not doubt that the vigorous measures taken had the effect of deterring the enemy from attack and of giving confidence to Basuto waverers, who could not fail to be impressed by the resolute attitude of those holding the Queen's authority when, encircled as they were by the river border on three sides within gunshot, they displayed no fear of the result of attack and clung tenaciously to their belief in the determination of the Queen's Government to uphold its supremacy. At one time it appeared almost certain that an attack would be made by Boers in conjunction with some disaffected chiefs, but it fell through from want of trust in each other.

On one occasion the wire hawser on which our pont plies across the river was cut adrift. The act was mischievous and aggressive and caused excitement. In the course of half an hour we had a good force on the banks of the river. It was essential to show that we were ready to resist aggressive acts, and,

for the sake of prestige, to repair the hawser, though the Boers were lying in commanding positions all round. But in order to allay excitement and avoid reprisals the natives were sent back that day. Next day the wire was adjusted without demonstration.

As the war operations rolled against and lay along our frontier the situation became anxious. Either side might for strategical reasons cross or be squeezed over and have drawn us involuntarily into the scrimmage.

The natives were vigilant and inquisitive. Though the British were unmistakably advancing they had had many reverses, which were well advertised. The surrender of Cronje, reliefs of Kimberley and Ladysmith were regarded as Government telegraph stories. The disasters at Reddersburg and Koorn Spruit and investment of Wepener, taken in conjunction with the occupation and evacuation of Ladybrand, Thaba Nchu, and other places, were facts more or less visible to the chiefs, many of whom were in favour of raiding derelict stock, whilst others advocated sitting on the fence cautiously.

Upon my receiving information by heliograph from our besieged garrison at Wepener that the enemy contemplated a flank movement which would necessitate military use of our roads and occupation of positions in Basutoland favourable to the investment, I immediately met the Paramount Chief and arranged with him to throw a large body of Basuto upon that point of the border in order to frustrate the design if possible. In the space of 24 hours we had several thousand men on the spot. This movement had its effect in averting violation of the border and giving confidence to the besieged garrison.

During the two weeks that our nondescript force was in the field nothing was done by it in contravention of orders. The men took a keen interest in watching the effect of shell fire and skirmishing, but made no attempt to intervene. On one occasion only, Lerothodi appealed to me as to whether it was right to stand by and see the Queen's soldiers pounded in such a way. I bade him let the matter alone and await the issue, which was beyond doubt, and he said no more. During the siege operations the Basuto border guard were frequently to be seen conversing with the Boers as they lay entrenched along the river bed or moved from one position to another. In some instances the natives jeered at the Boers for want of pluck in attack, but steps were taken invariably to curb undue levity.

It is relevant now to trace the attitude and characteristics of certain chiefs in their relation to the situation.

There is little doubt that, although the Free State Executive and some individual Boers of influence were at first deluded with the idea that the Basuto would help them in the struggle, the

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feeling mostly was one of fear that it would be otherwise. For this reason it was hoped that the old-fashioned policy of causing civil war between the chiefs might be successfully carried out. As a preliminary to this it was necessary to depose the British Administration, and hence the idea of seizing the seats of magistracy and headquarters of Government. Certain chiefs, who were known to be inimical to the Paramount Chief and authors of tribal strife in former years, were got at and worked upon.

The Chief Nkwebe, who exercises a powerful influence in Quthing, the Southern District of Basutoland, received much attention from the rebel Colonial Boers of the Barkly East Division. He lent himself to them in a questionable way during the unsettling stages following upon the Stormberg disaster, and temporary occupation of that area by Republican forces. His spies received facilities from the enemy to observe with their own eyes what appeared as the overwhelming force and success of the Republics then on British soil, and no persuasion of ours or appeals to loyalty could obliterate these visions. He, however, did nothing to commit himself seriously, and when an officer was sent from Maseru with a stiffening of loyal police to patrol the Drakensburg Passes, which were within his sphere, it had the effect of detaching waverers and commanding his assistance.

Mocheko, a chief of the Baphuti clan, who had played a conspicuous part for mischief in the Moiketsi disturbance of 1898, essayed to repeat his performance and bring about civil disorder by rebelling against the Paramount Chief; and, having started the game, adopted the tactics successfully pursued on a previous occasion of removing with his complications to the Herschel District of the Cape Colony. By a fortunate coincidence Major Hōok was at that moment appropriately sent as Commissioner to Herschel. Through his co-operation we were enabled to stifle the unseasonable and ill-conceived design of Mocheko, who was disarmed and relegated to safe custody at Maseru. He was thus rendered powerless for further mischief during the war, and deposed himself from any future title to respect or recognition as a chief.

The young Chief Letsie, eldest son and heir of the Paramount Chief, lent a ready ear to the charms of Boer officials and kicked against the orders of Government, which were prohibitive of border traffic and improper conversation with the Queen's enemies. A flattering letter to him, one probably amongst many, from the newly-fledged Landdrost of Aliwal North, after its incorporation with the Orange Free State, was intercepted by our patrols, much to his annoyance. He resented it, and many covert threats were for a time flying about in consequence. But he succumbed eventually to influences brought to bear upon him.

Similarly the Chief Maama, and the sons of the late Chief Masupha, indulged secretly in conversation with the enemy, hoping they might regain by any means tribal influence lost by their own follies in the past. But they did not commit themselves to action.

The Chief Joel Molapo stands out prominently as one who was prepared to sacrifice himself and go over to the enemy It is on record that Field Cornet Rautenbach informed President Steyn that Joel was on their side. This record, taken from the Bloemfontein "Friend," of a meeting of burghers at Fouriesburg on October the 5th is so instructive that I append a copy of it to this report. Field Cornet Rautenbach lives in the Fouriesburg District on a farm divided from Joel only by the Caledon River, narrow at that point. For many years he has notoriously fomented quarrels between the Basuto chiefs in Leribe, who have suffered from the advice he gave them with sinister aims. His plan when the war began was to promote a tumult in Basutoland by raking up the embers of the old feud between the children of Molapo. With civil war raging, the Boers hoped. as formerly, to bend the conflicting elements to their own purposes and be for a while immune from the danger of invasion from a united tribe. It was commonly believed that the Free State Government had, as an earnest of their bargain with Joel, presented him with a lot of Mauser rifles. Joel, as an earnest of his covenant, was to attack a chief named Hlasoa who was friendly to Jonathan, and this was to begin the row. Joel carried out his part by attacking Hlasoa vigorously, the result being 5 men killed and villages destroyed. I was urged at the moment to move in force with the Paramount Chief to avenge Joel's action and vindicate our authority. But it was a critical moment. The Basuto were in an uncertain mood and ready to be swayed either way. I did not believe they would unitedly support the Paramount Chief; indeed some chiefs, including Lerothodi's own sons, were inclined to help Joel, believing him to be on the winning side. Later information confirmed my impression that it would have been a disastrous move and have led to the tribal confusion which had been designed. Joel was therefore left to stew over his mistakes and the defeat of the Boer scheme. Subsequently he wobbled unhappily about, just as the war barometer wobbled, with its variations of British and Republican successes and reverses. He did nothing worse, though it was in his power to do so. He supplied horses, cattle, and harvesters to the enemy; but in these respects he was not exceptional, for many chiefs did the same secretly, some to make profit and others to court the friendly offices of the Boers in case of their ultimate ascendancy. His case has yet to be dealt with when hostilities in the north-east of the Orange River Colony are ended and the district under British control. Before closing Joel's story it is necessary briefly to throw a side light on his history. He has been for the last 20 years at deadly enmity

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with his brother Jonathan. The brothers have never been found on the same side. I am of opinion also that Jonathan did his best to infuriate Joel by minor intrigues, employing the sufferer Hlasoa as a tool. In extenuation, too, there was the evil influence of Rautenbach who had the authority of the Free State Government to threaten coercion and promise favours.

Jonathan Molapo is a chief of great power and played an important part. At first he coquetted discreetly with the enemy and held pleasant conversation with the local leaders. Then, having ascertained for certain that Joel had favoured their cause, and that the British were strong and resolute, he angled unreservedly to loyalty and henceforth took up the burden of it. By so doing he incurred the anger and threats of the Boers to such an extent that he feared attack, under menaces of which he threw himself with a strong body of men into the camp of the Magistrate at Thlotsi Heights with determination to defend the position. He was thus a tower of strength to the Magistrate and to the Administration, for his action had the effect of swaying a large volume of native opinion, which is capable of being swayed by men and methods of firm resolve. His conduct on the whole was most praiseworthy, yet marred by the human fault of exciting animosity against Joel, and at a later date of obstructing the lawful procedure of the Paramount Chief, who was deputed by me to search in Leribe District for secreted stolen cattle.

Of the Paramount Chief I can only speak as of a man who had to face a trying ordeal and braced himself up to endure it. He was threatened and cajoled by Boer emissaries, was tempted by his own people to throw off the yoke of Government, and generally taunted by all those who saw a favourable opportunity for gaining points out of the white man's struggle. But in word and deed he never stirred from his allegiance to the Queen, deciding to stand or fall by his choice. Yielding more to guidance than to pressure he lent himself to stern and loyal duty, cheerfully accepting all orders necessary to the governing policy and religiously carrying them out. He made use of the occasion when much latitude was allowed to him to gain certain tribal advantages for the benefit of his immediate family. But they were small human errors compared with the service he rendered to the Queen by obedience and sympathy. This sympathy was manifested in many ways. As instances, it may be mentioned that several thousand labourers were required and provided rapidly for the military authorities in repairing broken railways. Though the possession of horses by the individual is a feudal condition imposed by the chiefs for national defence, no bar was practically placed upon free sale for Imperial purposes, and it is probable that not much less than ten thousand remounts went to the army.

When Wepener was besieged and its communications severed, our roads were requisitioned for carriage of Imperial supplies and munitions. There were not wanting at that time those who sedulously revived a previous canard that soldiers were being introduced to fight the Basuto. Nevertheless, a stream of military wagons and ambulances took their unmolested course, being piloted and helped by messengers appointed by the Paramount Chief with that object.

To sum up the general attitude of the Basuto, I may venture the remark that, though loyalty *per se* is a magnificent virtue, it is usually rendered by untutored people to those who have the power to coerce and enforce it. The incidence of events in South Africa for many years had generated in the native mind a great question as to which Cæsar they should render tribute. This thought was paramount throughout a considerable period of the war, and so long as the success of British arms was in doubt the natives as a mass were alternately ready to be controlled or to jib according to the turn of events. For this fluctuation they cannot be altogether blamed. For their wise comprehension in being finally on the winning side without having compromised themselves they may be praised to the full.

There were other features connected with the war which, though full of interest, must be briefly summarized.

English refugees who were terrorized or driven from the Orange Free State rather than fight against their own countrymen flocked into Basutoland. A few small grants from the Lord Mayor's fund, readily placed at our disposal by the High Commissioner, enabled us to house and nourish them to the best of our limited resources, supplementing much hospitality extended by the European residents to whose sympathy and generosity this report should bear tribute.

In order to guard the border, chiefs, headmen, and special police were called upon to stiffen our limited native police force. They responded well. A chain of mixed patrols extended along the whole frontier, from the declaration of war to the present time.

It would be unnatural to suppose that at such a juncture the criminal class would not show their mettle. It took the form of thieving from abandoned farms. Yet it is satisfactory to record that most of the thieves have been traced and the stock accounted for.

When our direct communications were abruptly severed, a line of posts and telegraphs was established by runners through the mountains via East Griqualand. For co-operation in these services we are much indebted to the Postmaster-General of the Cape and to the Colonial Magistrate at Matatiele and Mount Fletcher.

It would be out of place here to enter into any particulars as to the great mass of intelligence supplied during the war through the agency of this territory, or to trace the enterprise of scouts, of whom large numbers were sent to Her Majesty's forces.

LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

It is gratifying to state that trade in liquor during the year was almost non-existent. In the early stages of the war it was freely dispensed by Free State officials as presents to chiefs who were being courted. It is hoped that the dawn of prohibition is appearing now that a British Administration in the Orange River Colony has the power of regulating licences and liquor laws.

FINANCIAL.

The financial position is satisfactory. The £1 Hut Tax was well paid. There is no public debt. All things considered, our Customs earnings, viz., £12,200, were higher than could have been expected. The difference between it and the Cape grant of £18,000 was refunded to the Cape Govennment.

Statistics are given in the Secretary's report.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

The crops generally were good. Owing to the break in communications for many months trade suffered materially. Good stocks of merchandise were fortunately laid in prior to the outbreak of the war ; but grain received in exchange by traders found no outlet, and at the present time several hundred thousand bags of wheat and mealies are awaiting export which the paucity of wagons prevents.

The great industry of the country, viz., native labour furnished to the neighbouring mines, railways, towns, and farmers, received a complete check. After the occupation of Bloemfontein by British forces, a demand was made by the Commander-in-Chief for railway labourers. Several thousand men were readily recruited, and are reported to have done excellent work.

EDUCATION.

In spite of many abnormal drawbacks the work of education went on well. There is a gradual annual rise in the number of schools, scholars, and average attendance. The results of Cape elementary examinations continue to show a marked success of boys sent from Basutoland.

The question of reorganizing the system of school grants in aid is under consideration. Meanwhile, in view of the increased Hut Tax, a 10 per cent. additional grant was by authority of the High Commissioner made to the mission societies, who pursue their labour with energy and success and appropriate the grants to the best advantage. Religious work progresses as favourably

as can be expected in native spheres where there is much counteraction. It has many enemies who at times clamour for results. What we are able to trace by comparative periods is that there is a consistent recognition of the value of labour and industry and a higher respect for law and order and domestic discipline.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospital work as recorded by the Medical Officers is well maintained. No better tribute can be paid to the Medical Officers than that they were able to bear the strain of receiving a considerable number of sick and wounded despatched from the forces operating on our border, and that the little hospitals were pronounced by patients and visiting doctors to be, though very humble, models of cleanliness and order. About 200 such cases were treated under improvised arrangements and only four deaths registered.

JUDICIAL.

Statistics are furnished in the Secretary's report. The native police have performed splendid service during the year. Supplemented by raw and unequipped material, they carried out their orders most effectively through a heavy and trying period. Beyond stealing, for which there was unusual temptation, the crime lists are comparatively low.

Vital statistics, post and telegraph services, and other returns are given in the Secretary's report.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Upon the subject of national progress it is not practicable this year to make much comment. The public mind was wrung with a more or less feverish animation over the great war. Years ago such a thing may have produced madness. On this occasion there was comparative calm.

I have in separate despatches drawn Your Excellency's attention to the excellent services of the officers of the Administration throughout the crisis.

Combining judicious energy with tact and loyal devotion to duty, they have as a body discharged a great trust to Her Majesty's Government with deserving and signal success. What inspired all was the feeling and the knowledge that we enjoyed Your Excellency's complete confidence in meeting resourcefully the daily emergencies that arose.

I have, &c.,

G. Y. LAGDEN,

Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency the High Commissioner, &c.
South Africa.

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PROCLAMATION.

TO THE CHIEFS AND NATION OF THE BASUTOS.

Be it known that the English Government have forced a war upon the Transvaal. The real cause of the war is that there are goldfields and diamonds in the Transvaal which certain English people covet. The Free State is helping the Transvaal in this unjust war that the English Government have brought about. As the Free State is liable to be attacked by the British Government on all sides, it has sent commandos of burghers to the neighbourhood of its several borders in order to defend this country in case of attack. The Free State has stationed such commandos in the neighbourhood of the Basutoland border.

Be it known, however, that the Free State is at peace with the Basutos and has no quarrel with them and desires to remain at peace with them. No harm will be done to Basutos who remain quiet and take no part in the assistance of the English.

Given under my hand and great seal of the Orange Free State, at Bloemfontein, on the 18th day of October, 1899.

(Signed) M. T. STEIJN,
State President.

By order,

(Signed) P. J. BLIGNAUT,
Government Secretary

A COMMANDO MEETING.

SEVENTY THOUSAND COLONISTS WAITING TO RISE.

The "Friend" gives the following sample of a commando meeting held just before the war broke out.

"The task of guarding the Free State—Basutoland border north of Ficksburg was entrusted to the burghers of the town of Bethlehem and the ward of Wittebergen.

"The whole of these, some 500 in number, mustered on the church square in Fouriesburg on the 5th October last to listen to addresses by the Dutch Minister and other leaders. Some of the remarks then and there made were so peculiar that they deserve to be more widely known.

"The reverend fire brand, Mr. Heyns, made the usual impassioned harangue anent the justice of their cause—the unmitigated rascality of the enemy who were attacking them—the wicked greed, &c., &c., of the unscrupulous enemy who were simply hungering after the farms and property of the simple, pious Free State burghers—winding up with assuring his audience that their world-renowned bravery and skill, with their trusty Mausers, in conjunction with the assistance which God had promised, would surely and speedily drive their hated and despised enemy out of South Africa.

"The newly elected Commandant, Hermanus I. Steyn, was unable to do more than make a few remarks owing to a severe cold, but any shortcomings on his part were amply made up for by Mr. H. S. Viljoen, member of the Volksraad for the Wyk Wittebergen, who wound up a most insulting and lying tirade by urging the burghers there assembled to mark every man who was not heart and soul with them against tyranny and injustice. According to this ex-British subject, neutrality was to be made impossible for anyone residing in the Free State, no matter what his nationality might be. All must fight for the glorious Afrikander nation and language, and nothing would be too bad to do to any Englishman who refused to fight against his own country and Queen.

"Mr. Michael Rautenbach, a well known farmer living on the bank of the Caledon, just opposite Joel's place, assured the burghers that there would be no fighting there as Joel was loyal to the Free State, and stated that he himself though living right on the border and thus most exposed to danger, if any existed, did not intend leaving his farm.

"He then gave in some detail how he had on his own initiative entered into negotiations with Joel, and reported the result to the Executive Council—how the Executive Council had sent for him to Bloemfontein, and after considering the matter very carefully had sent him back with a mission to Joel—how he had carried out his instructions—and reported the successful accomplishment of his mission to the authorities. Mr. Rautenbach wound up by stating that if there would be fighting on the Basuto border, which he did not for a moment expect, their neighbour across the river (Joel) would give them timely warning, and would be found fighting alongside them.

"The only other speaker of any account was Mr. Piet Heyns. To properly appreciate the importance which the burghers attached to this gentleman's utterances it may be pointed out that he had then for many weeks past been travelling about in the district buying up cattle by the hundred on behalf of the Transvaal Government. Mr. Heyns commenced by stating that he had received instructions from the President of the Transvaal

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to hand over to that commando as a present for their own use six hundred head of fat stock. This announcement was received with cheers, and that was the last of it, for the six hundred head did not materialize. He then went on to say that if any proof was wanted to convince them that they were embarking on a war which must end in disaster to England, he could furnish them with the required proof. He (Piet Heyns) was authorized to tell them that 70,000 of their brothers in the Cape Colony and Natal were waiting the signal, already prearranged, to rise. The British Government thought that these men were unarmed, but Paul Kruger had taken good care to provide Mausers, ammunition, and supplies at various centres."

ANNUAL REPORT.

GOVERNMENT SECRETARY, 1899-1900.

FINANCE.

The Revenue and Expenditure of Basutoland for the year under report, as compared with previous years, is as follows :—

Year ended 30th June.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1897	45,867 11 2	45,768 7 4
1898	46,555 7 6	44,797 10 10
1899	46,847 16 8	46,417 12 9
1900	69,769 16 4	59,492 7 6

The most noticeable feature in the past year's revenue is the great increase in the amount of Hut Tax collected, due of course to the augmented rate of £1 per hut which has been paid.

The Revenue has been thus composed :—

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	47,047	10	0
Post Office revenue	1,525	5	1
Licences	1,487	0	0
Judicial fines	710	8	5
Ferry tolls	237	11	3
Fees of court or office	67	18	6
Miscellaneous revenue... ...	694	3	1
	51,769	16	4
Contribution from Cape Government	18,000	0	0
Total	£69,769	16	4

Of the above amount of Hut Tax the sum of £3,330 represents arrears of tax. The number of huts upon which tax was paid is 48,029.

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The amount of £18,000 contributed by the Cape Government has been repaid into the Colonial Treasury in the following manner :—

	£	s.	d.
Customs dues on goods imported into Basutoland during the financial year and handed to Cape Government ...	12,223	11	6
Refund made at close of the year ...	5,776	8	6
Total ...	£18,000	0	0

The Expenditure includes the extraordinary payments of £6,756 5*s.* 6*d.* on account of Telegraph Construction, and £5,980 5*s.* on Defence services rendered necessary by the war.

TRADE AND AGRICULTURE.

During the twelve months ended 31st March, 1900, dutiable goods were imported into Basutoland to the amount of :—

	£	s.	d.
From the Cape Colony ...	40,047	0	0
From the Orange Free State	44,061	11	2
From Natal	1,419	6	3
Total ...	£85,527	17	5

It is to be remembered that this amount of imports is as they are assessed for Customs purposes, and it includes only dutiable articles, these being valued at the bare cost to the wholesale importer at the place of purchase. Agricultural implements, grain bags, and many other duty free articles are not included in the foregoing figures, nor are manufactured articles made up in Africa of imported materials.

The state of war prevailing in the Orange Free State and the Northern Districts of the Cape Colony for many months of the year rendered it impossible to import merchandize into Basutoland, and the volume of trade was far less than it would have been under more favourable conditions. The import trade is almost entirely in British goods, with the exception of ploughs and agricultural implements which are mostly of American manufacture.

The harvest of the year was a good one, but the war and the lack of transport have closed the usual outlets for the produce of the country. Large stocks of grain are still in the hands of the traders. To compensate in some measure for this great disadvantage a considerable number of ponies have been purchased at good prices for military purposes.

The exports of produce compare as under with the returns of the two preceding years :—

Articles.	Year ended 30th June, 1898.		Year ended 30th June, 1899.		Year ended 30th June, 1900.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Wheat	Muids. 19,984	£ 17,450 s. 4 d. 7	Muids. 3,832	£ 3,074 s. 16 d. 0	Muids. 7,404	£ 4,909 s. 13 d. 0
Mealies	99,352	52,590 14 3	13,370	9,319 18 0	20,685	11,450 7 0
Kafir Corn	14,739	8,760 6 0	4,684	4,028 2 0	1,220	705 6 0
Meal	1,876	2,813 11 0	244	317 1 0	159	293 8 0
Mealie Meal...	17	13 0 0	15	22 10 0	—	—
Wool	lbs. 1,992,131	24,989 15 4	lbs. 1,509,421	27,242 19 0	lbs. 1,640,813	36,081 10 8
Mohair	128,067	4,448 2 2	149,743	6,125 12 0	194,248	9,010 8 9
Cattle	No. 711	3,959 1 0	No. 2,555	14,282 15 0	No. 522	No. 6,997 10 0
Horses	1,966	12,628 12 0	1,869	14,091 17 0	4,419	64,031 18 0
Miscellaneous	—	10,846 0 5	—	4,110 1 0	—	384 17 0
Total...	—	138,499 6 9	—	82,615 11 0	—	133,864 18 5

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In spite of efforts to obtain correct figures, it is probable that a very large number of the horses exported are not included in above returns, as in addition to horses bought by the Government and by officers of the Remount Department buyers visited every part of the country, and such transactions have a tendency to escape any official computation.

140 general traders' licences have been issued and 40 licences to hawkers trading with wagons.

The following classified return shows the number of natives who have left the country with passes, and the object of such journeys :—

Object of Journey.	Number of Individuals.
Seeking employment at Johannesburg ...	178
" " Kimberley ...	68
" " Jagersfontein ...	437
" " Coal Mines C.C.	37
For farm and domestic service	4,324
For purposes of visiting, &c.	14,116
Total	19,160

During the preceding year 37,371 labourers left Basutoland, the difference being remarkable and unfortunate, as the earnings of the people at the different centres of employment form an important item in the national economy. But since the military occupation of the Orange River Colony a demand has arisen for Basuto labourers for work on Imperial military railways, and up to the 30th June more than 3,000 labourers had been enrolled and sent forward to Bloemfontein for this service.

EDUCATION.

The expenditure on education during the year was £4,358 15*s.* 9*d.*, including grants to missions for educational purposes, support of undenominational and night schools, and

maintenance of some more advanced students at training institutions. A summary of school returns shows :—

Number of schools in Basutoland	...	177
Number of scholars on books	...	11,134
Mean average attendance ...	...	7,804

Twenty-two students are either wholly or partly supported at training institutions in the Cape Colony. In the majority of cases the parents of these lads contribute substantially towards their maintenance.

POLICE AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The following is the strength of the Basutoland Mounted Police :—

European officers	...	...	...	12
European constables	...	...	...	9
Native officers ...	...	...	...	7
Native sergeants	...	...	...	7
Native corporals	...	...	...	9
Native privates	...	...	...	212
Native constables	...	...	...	3
Total ...	...	...	...	259

To keep up the necessary system of continuous border patrols during the war 42 special temporary native police were enrolled.

The following is a return of police patrol work :—

Number of patrols performed	...	3,396
Estimated distance travelled (miles)		100,773
Arrests under Liquor Law ...	...	29
Arrests under Pass Law	... ...	208
Arrests for other offences	... ...	232

Many of the arrests were for breaches of special local regulations as to intercourse with the inhabitants of the neighbouring hostile Republic.

355 prisoners were received into gaol during the year, and 117 remained in gaol on the 30th June, 1900.

Two floggings were inflicted, both being punishment for the crime of rape.

The following is a classification of criminal cases dealt with :—

Assault	6
Breaches of Customs Regulations ...	2
„ Pass Law	99
„ Liquor Law	32
Escape	3
Homicide	2
Housebreaking	2
Miscellaneous offences	38
Resisting police	14
Rape	3
Riot	2
Theft	103
Total	306

11 civil cases were heard.

Return of Lost Stock Reported.

Stock.	Reported.	Traced to Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not re-covered.
Horses	74	32	42	32	42
Cattle	285	207	78	205	78
Sheep	1,007	347	660	347	651

Nine sheep were found on owner's farm in East Griqualand. This return does not include many cattle discovered in Basutoland having been irregularly removed from Orange River Colony and restored to military administration.

POPULATION.

On the outbreak of the war there was a considerable influx of European and native refugees, who in many cases brought with them their stock and moveable property. Generous aid to

distressed European refugees was afforded by the Cape Town Central Committee of the Mansion House Relief Fund, the grants made being administered by the Basutoland Government officers. Since the occupation of the Orange River Colony by British forces the European refugees have been enabled to return to their homes. The rather serious outbreak of small-pox in the Berea District is the result of the neglect by the natives of the measures of vaccination and quarantine recommended by the Medical Officers and enforced elsewhere with good results by the Commissioners of Districts.

A census will probably reveal a very considerable increase in the number of the native population during the past 10 years.

Postal and Telegraph Service.

Regular postal services to Aliwal North were interrupted by the war and by the rebellion in a portion of the Cape Colony. By adoption of other routes and by means of a system of express riders carrying posts through the mountains from East Griqualand, communication with the Cape Colony was kept open.

The Basutoland telegraph line was with the aid of the Cape Construction Department opened in the commencement of the year reported upon. By the courtesy of the Postmaster-General of the Cape Colony I am able to give the following postal and telegraphic statistics of work done at the Basutoland offices :—

Letters posted in Basutoland ...	123,643
Postcards „ „ ...	3,024
Newspapers „ „ ...	13,104
Book packets „ „ ...	3,861
Parcels „ „ ...	1,092
Total	144,724

Letters received in Basutoland ...	133,198
Postcards „ „ ...	2,613
Newspapers „ „ ...	39,026
Book packets „ „ ...	7,358
Parcels „ „ ...	3,562
Official letters, &c. „ ...	11,102
Total	196,859

	£	s.	d.
Money orders issued	8,146	6	2
Money orders paid	2,087	12	11
Telegraph revenue	451	15	5
Cablegrams	80	12	6
Savings Bank deposits ...	2,480	13	6
Savings Bank withdrawals ...	1,355	11	10

Reports of the following officers are attached :—

The Assistant Commissioner, Leribe.
The Officer in Charge, Butha Buthe.
The Medical Officer, Leribe.
The Assistant Commissioner, Berea.
The Assistant Commissioner, Maseru.
The Principal Medical Officer, Maseru.
The Assistant Commissioner, Mafeteng.
The Medical Officer, Mafeteng.
The Assistant Commissioner, Mohale's Hoek.
The Medical Officer, Mohale's Hoek.
The Assistant Commissioner, Quthing.
The Medical Officer, Quthing.
The Assistant Commissioner, Qacha's Nek.

H. C. SLOLEY,

Government Secretary.

ANNUAL REPORT—LERIBE DISTRICT, 1899-1900.

The past year has been an eventful one in Leribe, as I suppose elsewhere. Everything and every question has been so affected by the war, now happily drawing to a close, that there is little to write about except the effect of it on our natives here. Our local politics have remained at a standstill, and many questions requiring settlement have had to wait for a more convenient season, with the result that there is a deadlock in many places and it is extremely difficult to keep things going on.

Sometime before the outbreak of hostilities there were rumours of an understanding between Joel and the Boers, and a certain Michael Rautenbach took occasion, at a public meeting at Fouriesburg, to explain the terms of the contract entered into by him on behalf of the Free State Government with Joel. The sequel showed that Mr. Rautenbach had not overrated the importance of his work. From the beginning of the war Joel has maintained an attitude of disloyalty to Her Majesty and of effusive friendliness to Her enemies, to whom his border has never been closed, and to whom he has not scrupled to afford assistance by providing them with reapers, allowing them to purchase horses, &c. He has also disregarded my summons, with the result that the Queen's authority has been in abeyance in his ward since last November. During that month he attacked his younger brother Hlasoa and drove him out of his villages, killing five of his men. Hlasoa and his people were driven from their homes and crops, and are now in a destitute condition. They, however, in their retreat, captured 40 goats belonging to Joel's people, which, I believe, they still retain or have made use of.

The quarrel between Joel and Hlasoa is an old one, and has formed the subject of frequent reports, annual and ordinary. It was fairly well patched up last year; and they would, I think, be now living in peace, if not in harmony, were it not that the attitude of Joel gave Hlasoa a probably not undesired pretext to break with him, and in this course it is quite likely that he was in some degree inspired by Jonathan.

Joel's case is still before the Resident Commissioner, and at this stage it would be improper to say more about it than record such facts as are patent to all, and which indeed are salient features in the political history of the district. But it may not be out of place to say that for years past Joel has, without much reason I am bound to say, according to European ideas, considered himself an injured man. Jealousy and ambition, vices unfortunately by no means peculiar to Joel, were probably the motives

BASUTO-LAND, 1899-1900.

which influenced him, and the desire to get the better of Jonathan, who is by birth his chief, but with whom he has always been at enmity, had probably more weight with him than any sympathy with the Boers in their quarrel with us. This enmity began with Jonathan's birth—when Joel, already a young man, but son of the second wife, saw himself suddenly thereby deprived of the position he had begun to look upon as his by right—and has lasted all their lives, growing in intensity with their growth. The officer in charge at Butha Buthe is probably correct when he says in his report, which I forward herewith, that for Jonathan to take one side in any question is almost enough of itself to make Joel take the other. The defection of Hlasoa too, who joined Joel in the rebellion of 1880 and who, up to some five years ago, was his very humble servant and recipient of his favours, must also have influenced him in placing himself on the side opposite to that on which he knew that Jonathan would be found. For although the actual rupture of their recently established relations did not take place until Joel had committed himself more or less, still the memory of their quarrel was still green and the reconciliation, never very thorough, had not had time to mature. Enough, however, has been said by Mr. Boxwell, and now by me, to show how very prone a man like Joel, who is less enlightened and amenable to reason than are most other chiefs of rank, would be to lend an ear to the voice of the tempter, and little by little, perhaps without knowing it, get committed to a policy of disloyalty to Her Majesty, while his original intention may only have been to get the better of Jonathan.

Other chiefs who sat on the fence while the issue of the war seemed to them to be doubtful are now, of course, very loyal, and perhaps it is as well in a report of this kind not to mention their names. It is, however, my duty to record the loyal attitude of Jonathan, the Chief of the district, whose unfailing support at a time when it was much needed and obedience under great provocation when Joel fell on Hlasoa deserve recognition. I must, however, say that while his attitude to Government is, and has been, satisfactory he does not always show that deference and respect for the Paramount Chief which the latter has the right to expect. The same jealousy and lust for independent chieftainship which exists between his own subordinate Joel and himself is visible here, though in an infinitely less degree, and there is not that element of personal hatred which makes the Jonathan-Joel case so difficult to handle. I think the root of the matter lies in that desire to overreach his immediate superior which seems to be an innate characteristic of every Basuto chief and headman, and is one of the drawbacks, though at times a mixed one, of our system. Where the fault, as between Lerothodi and Jonathan, precisely lies I do not pretend to say. Probably both share in it. Certainly Lerothodi, as I have said, has a right to expect more respect and obedience than Jonathan

generally shows him. But loyalty between superior and subordinate should not be all on one side, and Jonathan considers that he has a good many grievances against Lerothodi.

The new Hut Tax, which caused some apprehension at first, has, with the exception of Joel's ward, been well paid.

On the whole the Leribe people behaved well and obeyed the border regulations, abstaining from looting, which it was feared they would practise in the Free State. During the last few days in May and beginning of June, however, their natural instincts seem to have got the better of them, and cattle were stolen right and left. Nearly 400 head were recovered by me, with the assistance of Jonathan, and sent to the District Commissioner at Ficksburg. Messengers from the Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief are now in the district searching for stolen stock.

The following are the usual returns:—

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	9,741	10	0
Licences	440	0	0
Fines	74	7	6
Fees	4	10	6
Miscellaneous	83	0	6
Total	£10,343	8	6

Tax was paid on 10,115 huts.

Arrear tax collected amounted to £656 10*s*.

LICENCES.

General traders' licences issued	43
Paid hawkers' licences issued	10
Free hawkers' licences issued	3

RETURN OF PASSES ISSUED.

For the mines, Johannesburg	65
„ Kimberley...	10
„ Jagersfontein	2
For the coal mines, Cape Colony	—
For farm and domestic service	327
For other purposes	527
Total	931

RETURN OF PATROLS.

Number of patrols	1,645
Number of men engaged	1,176
Estimated distance travelled	22,744
Number of arrests, Liquor Law	18
„ Pass Law	36
„ other offences	37

RETURN OF CASES TRIED.

Theft	32
Housebreaking	1
Homicide	1
Contravening Pass Laws	38
Contravening Liquor Laws	17
Resisting police	6
Assault	1
Civil cases	5

RETURN OF LOST STOCK.

Stock.	Reported.	Traced to Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Sheep & goats	15	4	11	4	11

None of the stock which was stolen by natives from the Orange River Colony during the war has been included. A large number of cattle, &c., has been returned to military authorities.

No floggings were administered during the year under review.

The following were the average prices of produce :—

Mealies	...	...	12*s.* a bag.
Wheat...	...	...	14*s.* „
Kafir corn	...	...	10*s.* „
Forage	...	...	25*s.* a 100 bundles.
Horses...	...	...	£12 10*s.* each
Cattle ...	...	...	£12 „
Sheep ...	...	...	15*s.* „
Goats ...	...	...	12*s.* 6*d.* „

GAOL RETURN.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	...	116
„ „ convicted and sentenced		107
„ „ discharged unconvicted		9
Number of prisoners in gaol on 30th June, 1900		35

J. C. MACGREGOR,

Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTO-LAND, 1899–1900.

ANNUAL REPORT—BUTHA BUTHE DISTRICT, 1899–1900.

Owing to the war the history of the district has been much out of the common, and I regret to say not satisfactory in some respects.

Early in July, 1899, rumours were afloat that the Chief Joel Molapo would, in the event of war, side with the Boers. To what extent the rumours were true remains to be proved. That there was some truth in them is certain, for some of Joel's acts were without doubt disloyal.

A review of the history of Joel and his ward during past years may help to explain, to some degree, his frame of mind during the present war. For years there has been a bitter feud between him and his elder brother Jonathan. They have been at open war more than once. Joel distrusts every act of Jonathan, and for the latter to take one side in any question, great or small, was almost enough of itself to make Joel take the other. In an attempt to get at the root of any question concerning Joel, we have to ask "How will this affect him as regards his relations with Jonathan?"

Many disquieting reports of Joel's intentions reached me during the war. Where they actually started may never be known; but we must remember that some of them may have been set afloat in order to please Jonathan and to drive Joel still further along the path that would lead him to ruin. This much we do know, that Joel stopped short of any act of violence towards white people.

Another point to be considered is this:—For many years Joel was chief over the Makhoakhoa. In 1890 he fought against Matela, beat him, and captured many of his cattle. The result was that the Makhoakhoa were taken from Joel's charge and put under Jonathan. Joel brought this on himself, and to a great extent has himself to thank for the loss of country and authority. But he has felt himself an injured man ever since. He submitted to superior force, but he has never considered the sentence just, and how to regain his lost ground is probably ever in his thoughts.

Then, for years, Hlasoa, Joel's younger brother, has been a thorn in his side. Joel says that when Hlasoa was driven from Mathokoane and was wandering about homeless, he took him and fed him and gave him lands. Hlasoa's gratitude, in Joel's opinion, has been to side with Jonathan—to turn the door of his hut. Hlasoa was already at Tsime when I came here, and what the exact terms of his tenure were, or what the exact bounds of

his location, I cannot say. Joel asserts that Hlasoa, little by little, tried to extend his ground and authority. Certain it is that Hlasoa has always been friendly with Jonathan; and that he has ever been really loyal to Joel, as were Belo and other sub-chiefs, is very doubtful. How far Hlasoa was used as a means to annoy Joel during the past few years we do not know, but Joel has always looked upon him as an enemy, living at his door.

Now, all these circumstances may not in themselves be sufficient to account for Joel having a desire to favour the enemies of the Queen, but they do allow us to understand how his mind may have become warped, and how he was ready to listen to any advisers who offered to show him a way out of his troubles, and promised that once for all he might get the upper hand of his life-long enemy Jonathan. That there were such advisers I have no doubt. Absolute proof as to how far Boers, Rautenbach, the Raatz family, and others, intrigued with Joel may or may not be forthcoming. The exact promises they made to him we do not know for certain, but there is no doubt that such promises were made. Joel was told, and all South Africa was told, that the Boers would drive the British into the sea. He saw our Colonies invaded and our towns besieged. For a while he saw the Boer assertions being, as he thought, fulfilled. He could not believe that it was only the advance guard of our troops that was checked, and he did believe that in a short time the Boers would be all-powerful in South Africa. It may well be that in this belief he helped them with reapers and sold them horses. We know that he refused to obey the calls of those above him, and we know that, probably relying upon promises of Boer help if necessary, he drove away Hlasoa, whom he looked upon as a spy. Qhobelo, Joel's son, went to Hlasoa on the night of November 18th with a lot of armed men. He said Hlasoa first attacked him, but looking at the respective strength of the parties, and taking other points into consideration, this is very doubtful. Shots were fired, and three men were reported to have been killed that night and two more next day. Hlasoa fled over the mountains, taking with him a considerable number of goats belonging to Joel's people, which have not been returned. He took refuge with Jonathan and is now living in that district. His grain was seized by Joel who also brought down Lekunya's people from the Sehonghong and placed them at Tsime. Since Qhobelo was placed by Joel near Hlasoa the friction between the latter and his brother was more acute than before. Qhobelo probably failed to respect the rights of his uncle and Hlasoa resented the least interference with them, and no doubt Joel backed up his favourite son in any dispute between him and Hlasoa.

Early in the war it was uncertain what Letsika's attitude would be, but the arrival of an officer to remain in his ward and watch the border had a good effect, and Letsika remained loyal.

There was as usual a good deal of trouble in his ward between the various factions, and several boundary questions await final settlement. In April a serious crime was committed at Qholaqhe. Mr. Moony's horse and that of Mofuta, the Paramount Chief's representative, were stabbed at night. Mr. Moony's has since died of the wound.

I regret to have to report the almost total failure of the Hut Tax collection in Joel's ward this year. He has only paid some £600 out of £2,000 odd that should be collected. Letsika has paid fairly well.

In May and June one or two reports reached me of stolen stock from the Orange River Colony, but the cattle were taken into Jonathan's district and were, I believe, recovered there. Within the last few days some stock was stolen and taken into Letsika's ward. Of these 24 or 25 head have been recovered, and these will be dealt with in the year 1900-1901.

There has been very little crime in this ward during the past year, and, apart from the attack on Hlasoa, none of a serious nature.

Statistics embodied in Leribe Annual Report.

W. BOXWELL,

Sub-Inspector, B.M.P.

Butha Buthe,

30th June, 1900.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT—LERIBE, 1899-1900.

The following table shows the number of attendances at the dispensary and hospital, and the vaccinations performed during the year ending 30th June, 1900. The numbers for the previous year are also given as a comparison :—

Classification.	1898-1899.	1899-1900.
New cases	2,360	3,570
Subsequent attendances	326	353
In-patients	52	84
Vaccinations	10,046	1,825
Totals	12,784	5,832

It will be observed that there is a large falling off in the totals. This is due to the small number of vaccinations performed during the year. There was no serious outbreak of small-pox in the district as in the previous year; and, the border being closed, there were few natives who received vaccination and a pass on proceeding to work in other countries.

The attendance at the dispensary was largely increased, there being considerably over 1,000 more cases than in the previous year. The in-patients at the hospital also show an increase. At times the limited room at my disposal was severely tested. In connection with the in-patient work it may be of interest to state that 20 major operations were performed and 42 minor (not including what was done in the dispensary). Chloroform was administered 39 times during the year. Most of the cases admitted into the hospital were surgical, but 18 were suffering from diseases requiring medical treatment. There were seven deaths. One each from general tuberculosis, acute nephritis, cancrum oris, scurvy, typhoid fever, compound fracture of cranium, and heart disease.

BASUTO LAND, 1899–1900

A severe epidemic of whooping-cough was present in this district during the greater part of the year. It began in September and continued until the end of May. There were many deaths from it, especially among the younger children.

Limited outbreaks of small-pox have occurred in four villages, but the disease has been kept under and there has been no spread.

Amongst other infectious diseases notified have been varicella and measles. The varicella was mild; the measles was concurrent with the whooping-cough and was the cause of much of the mortality.

Most of the vaccinations were done in and around the villages infected with small-pox. 1,123 persons were vaccinated with calf lymph and 902 with humanized lymph.

The health of the police and prisoners has been good during the year.

The sanitary condition of the camp is satisfactory, and beyond the urgent necessity for an ample water supply there is nothing further to note.

N. M. MACFARLANE,
Medical Officer.

ANNUAL REPORT—BEREA DISTRICT, 1899–1900.

It would be wrong in view of what has been going on all round and in the country itself to compare the present year with other years, though, generally speaking, Berea District has been very quiet throughout.

Masupha, who, as I mentioned last June, was seriously ill, held on till the end of July and then died of complications resulting from influenza. His death has been greatly felt, not only in Berea, but all over the country. He was stubborn and strongly opposed to reform and to progress generally, but, while giving much trouble at times and occasionally causing great anxiety to the Government, yet it was known that his word could be depended on, and for this reason if for no other his death has been a great loss to the district and country.

His heir Mohlalentoa is now at school at Zonnebloem, and his mother Mamathe is appointed guardian of Masupha's estate. She is doing her work well, and, being herself a daughter of Letsie, she is far and away the best available guardian for the boy.

Before the commencement of the war there was a good deal of excitement caused and kept up by continuous reports spread by Boers as to the actions of the respective Governments; this, however, soon died out on the border being closed, and though throughout interested in the course of the war, no trace of the previous excitement remained.

Some small troubles arose among the sons of Lejaha, one man being wounded in the shoulder with a revolver. The arrest, however, of the ringleader Tsiami, son of Matsora, frightened the rest into better behaviour.

A more serious outbreak occurred over the Leshoboro-Masupha boundary line.

This line, which has frequently been alluded to before, and which had been confirmed in detail after the Moiketsi fighting, was always disputed by the sons of Masupha, and Leshoboro had neglected to take possession of the ground awarded to him. He now did so, and as a result Masupha's sons turned out armed to resist. Masupha's personal prestige was wanting, however, the people were half hearted, and the disturbance was quashed without a shot being fired. Mamathe throughout did her best on the side of peace. These were the only disturbances during the year.

At the end of September the telegraph wire was completed to this station and carried on to Leribe. The office has been open since then for telegraph and telephone work, and has been most valuable throughout the war.

BASUTOLAND, 1899–1900.

It seemed at one time as if the raising of the Hut Tax to £1 would meet with much opposition from the natives, but though, as I shall point out later, the tax has not been paid in full, yet the failure to do so was in no way attributable to the expected opposition.

Groceries and stores of all kinds have been very scarce for months past owing to the war; some slight improvement has lately been noticeable, but transport is so scarce that it will be months before the traders will be able to get in their regular stocks.

I regret to say there is at present a very serious outbreak of small-pox in the district. The usual alacrity displayed in imposing and keeping quarantine regulations which has been so noticeable in former outbreaks is quite absent in this one. Infected persons seem to disregard the quarantine and to wander about unstopped by those living near. Nearly the whole district is now infected. I fear the deaths must now amount to nearly 400 persons, and the disease is still going strong.

Vaccination seems to help a good deal, and it is owing to their faith in it that many natives disregard the quarantine. Very large numbers of all ages have been vaccinated during the year.

Owing to the war a large number of refugees, both white and black, have come across into this district, but the passes issued during the year may be put down as nil.

Hut Tax is disappointing and shows a considerable deficit; at the same time there have been some substantial reasons to account for it. Masupha's death, as I have said, left the district or rather his part of it paralysed. Mamathe has had jealousy and intriguing to meet, and her hands have been much weakened by it, and, secondly, small-pox has done away with all chance of getting the tax in by the end of June.

I consider that the amount of tax now shut up in quarantine would more than bring the total to £5,400, which, being an average of the last five years, may be taken to be approximately the Hut Tax of the district at 20*s.* per hut.

REVENUE RETURN.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut Tax	5,206	10	0
Licences...	351	19	0
Fees of court or office	2	3	0
Miscellaneous	11	9	1
Total ...	£5,572	1	1

Arrear Hut Tax amounted to £525 10*s.*

Tax was paid on 5,727 huts.

There has been only one hawker licensed during the year. There are 22 licensed traders in the district.

POLICE.

The police detachment in Berea consists of :—

Sub-inspector	1
European constable	1
Native N.C.O.'s and men	31
Total	33

All the above are mounted and efficient, and, with the exception of five temporary men, are well armed and equipped.

The following was the patrol work carried out by the detachment during the year :—

Patrols	924
Men employed on patrols	1,885
Number of miles travelled	14,643
Arrests for contravening Liquor Laws ...	5
Arrests for contravening Border Regulations	82

A detachment of 12 men and a constable has been stationed on the Caledon River, and in conjunction with 40 special mounted guards provided by Manathe and Leshoboro have done capital work in watching the border.

Ladybrand District being practically without spirits on account of the war, liquor smuggling has died out, temporarily at any rate.

The number of cases heard in this Court has increased, being largely composed of border offences.

The spectacle of so much undefended stock grazing across the Caledon was too much for the honesty of a number of Basuto, and there has been a good deal of stock stolen lately from the Orange River Colony.

The following are the cases heard in this Court :—

Theft	4
Border Regulations...	23
Liquor Regulations...	3
Public violence	1
Other offences	19
Total	50

BASUTO-LAND, 1899-1900.

LOST AND STOLEN STOCK.

The following return shows lost stock reported, and results up to 30th June, 1900 :—

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Recovered.	Not traced.	Not recovered.
Horses ...	14	1	1	13	13
Cattle ...	50	44	44	6	6

I have a considerable quantity of stock in my hands at present which is unreported as being lost by the owners and is awaiting identification.

No floggings have been inflicted during the year.

There has been a good crop all round, though circumstances have rather discounted it, there being little sale for any kind of grain owing to the impossibility of getting transport for it to the market. The present campaign is responsible for the price of horses having risen to absolutely fancy figures never dreamt of before, and in a lesser degree cattle.

Money is plentiful everywhere among the natives, though this district, owing to small-pox, has had little chance in the labour market.

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Wheat	...	...	20*s.* per bag.
Mealies ...	...	...	15*s.* „
Kafir corn	..	...	10*s.* „
Horses ...	...	...	£15 and upwards each.
Cattle ...	...	...	£10 to £20 each.

GAOL RETURN.

There are at present in gaol at Teyateyaneng 15 men ; 31 have been convicted and 45 have been discharged unconvicted. One man was extradited before the war.

ROADS.

The roads which are in the hands of the contractor are in very fair order.

L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

Berea,
30th June, 1900.

ANNUAL REPORT—MASERU, 1899-1900.

I have the honour to report that during the past year I have had no troubles to contend with in the administration of the district.

It appeared at first as if we would have some trouble in getting in the increased taxation, but the determined and unwavering attitude displayed by Lerothodi to comply with the order was no doubt the cause of the tax being so promptly paid. The people, generally speaking, can well afford to pay a £1 Hut Tax. They earn lots of money out of the country, and it is the exception for their crops to fail, for which they get very good prices from the traders in the country. The war is watched very closely by the Basuto, and the frequent reverses our people met with were hailed by some with joy, while others were very disappointed and feared their own safety. The Boers repeatedly told the Basuto that when they had driven the English into the sea they would turn their attention to them.

A few people, contrary to instructions, crossed into the Free State to assist the Boers in reaping their wheat crops, for which they were of course punished. though to the natives it did not appear that in doing this they were aiding the Queen's enemy, but that they had taken the opportunity of earning a little money in a way they have been in the habit of doing for some years past.

A chain of border patrols was established as soon as hostilities commenced, to preserve the neutrality of our border, to prevent stealing and the intriguing of the Boers. The work was very heavy, for which special police had to be engaged, and all headmen on the border were called upon to co-operate. One and all put their shoulder to the wheel and carried out their duties without a grumble. The Boers, fearing that the Basuto, their old enemies, would take the opportunity while all burghers along the border were away on commando of raiding the conquered territory, had laagers every here and there along the border, many of which contained boys and very old Boers only. Several responsible Boers, evidently instructed by their Government did their utmost to cause the Basuto to rebel and were keen that Lerothodi should co-operate with them in an attack upon Maseru. The idea being that if all Government officers were taken prisoners that the Boers would be in a position to dictate to the Basuto and do away with any chances of the raid they feared. In consequence of reports of this sort being repeatedly made to us, Maseru was placed in a state of very strong defence. Two stone forts were speedily run up and several positions made impregnable, and the male inhabitants of Maseru, numbering about 40 Europeans and 150 natives, including police, were

armed and held in readiness, and we were prepared to give the Boers a warm reception. Native pickets were posted round Maseru night and day with European officers in charge. The attack on Maseru was abandoned for the lack of co-operation on the part of the Basuto.

The wire rope which is stretched across the Caledon River, on which our pont is worked, was cut by some Boers under orders of the Landdrost of Ladybrand. A communication was addressed to the Landdrost, and he was informed that acts of this sort would not be tolerated and that he would be held responsible for the consequences. The following morning a demonstration of force was made and the wire again attached to the poles planted on the Free State side for the purpose. We have had no further trouble on this question.

A very useful system of intelligence work was established, and the authorities were kept posted with what was going on in the enemy's lines. Natives were employed on this dangerous work, and did splendidly. They got in, about, and out of the Boer laagers in a bold and daring manner, and many had thrilling adventures in making their escape upon being detected.

Many British subjects, European and native, residents of the Ladybrand District took refuge in Maseru; the Europeans to avoid being commandeered and forced into active service, and the natives for the protection of their property, horses and oxen in particular, which any irresponsible Boer took upon himself the right to use and misappropriate. The Europeans were bullied and threatened upon declining to take up arms against their own flesh and blood, and were thus forced to leave their homes and families at the mercy of their oppressors.

COMMERCIAL.

Trade fell off considerably by reason of our trade routes being cut off by the Boers, thus causing the traders to run out of supplies. The following are current prices of Basutoland produce :—

Cattle	£7 to £15
Horses	£12 to £25
Sheep	15*s.* to £1
Goats	5*s.* to 10*s.*
Wheat	10*s.* to 15*s.* a bag.
Mealies	10*s.* to 13*s.* „
Kafir corn	10*s.* to 13*s.* „
Wool	3*d.* per lb.
Mohair	6*d.* „

A very large number of horses have been drawn from this district by the military for remount purposes. Very good prices have been paid and much money put in circulation.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The roads have received continual attention, and are in good order.

POLICE.

The detachment consists of :—

1 Sub-Inspector.
2 European Constables.
2 Native Constables.
1 „ Sergeant.
2 „ Corporals.
46 „ Privates.

The following are particulars of patrols performed during the year :—

Number of patrols	10
Number of men engaged	25
Number of miles patrolled	4,557
Arrests for contravening Liquor Laws	Nil.
Arrests for other offences	9

Return showing action taken in recovering lost and stolen stock :—

Description.	Reported.	Traced to Basuto-land.	Not traced to Basuto-land.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Cattle	78	38	40	38	40
Sheep	90	90	—	90	—

NOTE.—Ten cattle and one horse not reported were recovered and handed to authorities in Ladybrand.

LICENCES.

The following licences were issued during the year :—

General traders	26
Paid hawkers	2
Free hawkers	2

CRIME.

The following cases were tried in my Court :—

Theft	9
Escaping from gaol	1
Assault	1
Contravening High Commissioner's Proclamation, No. 19/99	6
Contravening Pass Regulations	2
Civil cases	4

SUMMARY OF PASSES ISSUED.

Passes for Johannesburg Mines ...	72
„ Kimberley „ ...	56
„ Jagersfontein „ ...	26
„ Coal Mines, Cape Colony ...	10
„ Farm or domestic service ...	64
Total for labour	228
Total for other purposes	401
Grand total	629

In addition to the above, hundreds of labourers have been recruited for the Military Authorities, and have been employed on the railway line repairing the damage done by the Boers.

REVENUE.

The revenue for the year amounts to £9,341 15*s.* 3*d.*, and consists of :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut Tax	8,951	10	0
Licences	262	0	0
Fines	13	10	0
Ferry tolls	32	5	3
Fees	10	11	0
Miscellaneous	71	19	0
Total	£9,341	15	3

Tax was paid on 9,729 huts.

The amount of arrear tax is £978 10*s.*

No floggings were administered during the year.

C. GRIFFITH,
Assistant Commissioner.

PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT, 1899–1900.

ATTENDANCES.

The number of patients treated during the past year shows a slight increase on the previous year, except under the head of vaccinations. The decrease in this is due to the border having been closed during the greater part of the year. (In ordinary times all natives leaving the territory are bound to show a certificate of vaccination.)

The number of in-patients received at Mafeteng and Maseru was slightly below the average. Early in April the hospitals at these stations were closed to native patients, and all available beds reserved for sick and wounded soldiers. At Mafeteng almost every available room in addition to the hospital was utilized for this purpose, and at Maseru the Council Chamber was fitted up as a temporary hospital.

The following table shows the number of patients treated at each station (European patients not included in this table):—

Station.	New Cases.	Out-patients subsequent Attendances.	Vaccination.	In-patients.	Totals.
Leribe ...	3,570	353	1,825	84	5,832
Maseru ...	4,024	1,573	28	88	5,713
Mafeteng ...	3,760	959	540	41	5,300
Mohale's Hoek	2,061	300	380	32	2,773
Quthing ...	885	257	17	5	1,164
Berea ...	—	—	6,062	—	6,062
Total ...	14,300	3,442	8,852	250	26,844

EPIDEMIC DISEASES.

Small-pox.—In addition to a small outbreak in the Leribe District, which was easily controlled, small-pox has been very prevalent in the Berea District for upwards of nine months. The quarantine imposed on infected villages in this district has

been constantly broken, with the result that the disease has spread from one ward to another. Every effort has been made to control the spread of the disease. Vaccination has been enforced as far as possible both in the infected and surrounding areas. Trained native vaccinators have been constantly at work, and missionaries and traders have been supplied with calf lymph, and a large number of people have been vaccinated by them.

Enteric Fever.—Enteric fever has been less prevalent than in former years. It is a matter of congratulation, and speaks well for the sanitary arrangements in vogue, that in spite of the introduction of upwards of 28 cases from the Colonial Division there has not been a single case occurring outside of these, in either Maseru or Mafeteng.

Measles.—Measles was prevalent throughout the country in the late summer months, but the disease was of a mild type.

Whooping-cough.—Whooping-cough, which was prevalent concurrently with measles in the Leribe District, was slightly more fatal.

No other epidemic disease calls for notice. On the whole the year under review has been an exceptionally healthy one.

POLICE.

The health of the police throughout the territory has been uniformly good.

GAOLS.

No cases of serious illness have occurred among the prisoners.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

The addition of an operating-room at Leribe, Mafeteng, and Mohale's Hoek has been much appreciated. This addition was of exceptional service at Mafeteng in conjunction with the temporary military hospital established there.

EDWARD C. LONG,

Principal Medical Officer.

ANNUAL REPORT.—MAFETENG DISTRICT.

The war between Her Majesty's Government and the Boer Republics engrossed the attention of the Basuto, and no inter-tribal matter of political importance occurred in Mafeteng District during the past year.

The border was closed in accordance with the High Commissioner's Proclamation and strictly patrolled by native police under the direction of European officers.

During the early period of the war Boer commandos were laagered in the Orange Free State close to the Basutoland border and armed parties of Boers constantly moved to and fro. Considerable intrigue was carried on by influential Boers with district chiefs; Basuto were told that they could enter the Free State without passes; free trade in spirituous liquor was allowed and narratives of Boer successes were printed in Sesuto and circulated amongst the natives.

This was all done with the object of inducing the Basuto to be disloyal to Her Majesty's Government, but the Basuto stood the test. There were certainly one or two chiefs and a few people who wavered in their loyalty and sympathized with the Boers and received from time to time secret communications from them; but this did not affect our position much as the Paramount Chief's influence in support of Government measures was strong in the district, and one excellent sign of good faith shown by the chiefs was that they voluntarily collected last year's tax at the increased rate of £1 a hut and brought the money to the District Office. For a considerable time the only visible strength to the Basuto was the Boer power on their border, and it was a trying period for everybody.

After the first occupation of Wepener by the Colonial Division matters improved for a time as the Boer commandos retired northwards; the story of their return and the subsequent siege of Wepener is now a matter of history. All these events affected the Mafeteng District considerably and kept the natives in a state of unrest.

In April the district officers were on the Basutoland border near Wepener with some police and a considerable number of armed Basuto for the purpose of resisting the Boers had they attempted to cross into Basutoland under arms, but they did not do so, and there was no violation of territory from either side. After the relief of the besieged garrison at Jammerberg Drift the Basuto on border duty were dismissed to their homes.

About one hundred wounded and sick officers and men of the Imperial and Colonial forces were brought to Mafeteng for

medical and surgical treatment, and they were accommodated in the local hospital and also in the mission churches, the latter being most kindly lent by the clergy of the French and English missions.

Under the care of an efficient medical staff the majority of these patients sufficiently recovered to allow of their removal to Aliwal North.

I regret to say that three men died here. Only three patients still remain in Mafeteng Hospital.

Some Boer stock was found in this district in the possession of natives; some had been sent over for safety by the Boers under arms; others brought in by Free State natives who stole the stock on their masters' farms, and others were looted by Basuto living in Mafeteng District. All this stock was collected and after due enquiry either sent to the District Commissioner of Wepener or sold and the proceeds paid to Imperial account. The border of this district is still strictly patrolled by police with the object of suppressing stock thefts and maintaining law and order, and matters in the adjacent district of the Orange River Colony are at present peaceable.

Main roads and by roads in the district were maintained in order, and public buildings received some necessary attention.

Mission work is carried on energetically by the clergy of the various mission societies. I have furnished a separate report on 23 Government aided schools in this district.

The strength of the police detachment at this Magistracy is :—

Sub-inspector	1
European constables	2
Native officer	1
Native sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ privates	31
„ constable	1

One sub-inspector was specially attached for duty, and eight special police were enrolled.

The police have performed excellent service during the year, as the following statistics will show :—

Number of patrols	578
Number of men employed	897
Number of miles patrolled	20,171
Number of arrests	38

The civil and criminal cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court were as follows :—

Civil cases	Nil
Theft	10
Liquor Regulations	7
Other crimes	11
Homicide	Nil

Number of prisoners received into gaol during year	44
Number of prisoners discharged unconvicted ...	18
Number of prisoners convicted and sentenced ...	26
Number of prisoners in gaol on 30th June, 1900 ...	7

No floggings were inflicted.

I append a return showing result of action taken in tracing lost and stolen stock :—

Description.	Reported.	Traced to Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not recovered.
Horses ...	1	1	—	1	—
Cattle ...	18	18	—	18	—
Sheep ...	92	92	—	92	—

The undermentioned Trading Licences were issued :—

General traders	23
Paid hawkers	1
Free hawkers	12

Generally speaking, the crops were good throughout the district, especially the wheat crop, which was abnormal, but locusts did damage in some localities. Traders carried on business under some difficulty, being obliged to purchase quantities of grain which they were unable to export, the border being closed, and when roads were reopened it was found that transport wagons were scarce.

A large number of Basuto ponies were purchased for military remounts.

The rainfall at Mafeteng for twelve months ended 30th June, 1900, was 44·19 inches.

BASUTO-LAND, 1899–1900.

The following were the ruling prices of local produce and stock :—

	£	s.	d.
Wheat, per bag	0	13	6
Mealies „	0	12	6
Kafir corn „	0	14	0
Barley „	0	10	0
Oats „	0	10	0
Slaughter cattle, each	12	0	0
Horses „	10	0	0
Sheep „	0	10	0
Goats „	0	8	0
Wool, per lb.	0	0	5
Mohair „	0	0	9

I attach a return of revenue collected :—

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	7,534	10	0
Licences	231	0	0
Fines	86	4	5
Fees	8	7	0
Miscellaneous	95	16	1
Total ...	£7,955	17	6

Hut Tax was paid on 7,051 huts. Arrear tax collected amounts to £483 10*s*.

Owing to the war there was little intercourse with neighbouring States, but while the roads were open the under-mentioned number of persons obtained passes to leave the territory :—

Men for the mines, Johannesburg ...	21
„ „ „ „ Kimberley ...	1
„ „ „ „ Jagersfontein ...	363
„ „ coal mines, Cape Colony ...	Nil
„ „ farm and domestic service ...	894
„ „ other purposes...	1,308

After the British troops occupied Bloemfontein a large number of natives were sent to work on the railways, and these are not included in the above.

T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

Assistant Commissioner's Office, Mafeteng,
7th July, 1900.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT—MAFETENG DISTRICT, 1899-1900.

During the past twelve months there have been 3,760 out-patient attendances at the Government dispensary. Of this number 959 came back for second and subsequent attendance. The proportion existing between first and repeated attendance, the latter being as 1 in 4, is due to the fact that a large proportion of the cases are of a mild nature, easily relieved, also in many cases the natives will not persevere in treatment until cured.

The nature of the cases varies from examples of the most serious of medical and surgical diseases down to the most trivial. The large proportion approaches the trivial, such as slight colds and disordered stomachs. I have always thought, and still think, that if cooking were taught at the schools in the country much preventable disease would be obviated.

Vaccination certificates to the number 540 were issued in the twelve months under review. This number, largely under that of previous years, is small on account of the war which by closing the border kept the Basuto at home and stopped the outgoing labour stream.

There has been no outbreak of small-pox in this district during the year. One case came through from another district, but there was no spreading.

Enteric fever has been represented by a few cases, but considering its great prevalence now and for some time past in some parts of South Africa, it is a matter of congratulation that there has been no widespread outbreak. At Sepula's I saw five cases of this disease, all in one family; their water supply was from a spring and well just alongside of the main road from Wepener, and it had evidently been contaminated by some typhoid patients travelling who possibly polluted the water by merely dipping in their infected pails.

Whooping-cough had gone right through the district and camp, Europeans and natives alike suffering. It was, however, not attended by any high mortality, most cases being mild.

Measles is now epidemic in the district and camp, so far with a very low death rate.

I have seen two cases of leprosy during the twelve months.

Dysentery and diarrhœa have not been so prevalent as in the previous twelve months. It is possible that having had rain in each of the months of the year has had something to do with that.

BASUTO-LAND, 1899–1900.

Hospital in-patients have been 41 in the twelve months, of whom 38 were surgical and three medical cases. This is below the number which it would have been but for the fact that from the middle of April I reserved our accommodation for the sick and wounded of the Jammerberg Garrison and Relief Column.

In connection with these I wish to say how great a boon the new operating room was to the military patients and surgeons. The large number of wounded entailed a good deal of surgical work, and to do this in a well-lit, well-adapted room was a great advantage to operators and patients.

That the hygienic condition and sanitary arrangements of the camp are good is evidenced by the fact that although I had under my care 20 cases of enteric fever amongst the military patients in no case was the disease contracted by any attendant or other patient, nor by any outsider. Of the 20 cases so far only one has died. One case of enteric is still left who may or may not recover. It is a severe and protracted by complications case.

The health of the native police force during the past twelve months has been good. Such diseases as have occurred amongst them and their families have been mild.

D. M. TOMORY,

Medical Officer.

Mafeteng,

9th July, 1900.

ANNUAL REPORT.—MOHALE'S HOEK, 1899-1900.

The topic of the past year has principally and very naturally been the outbreak and progress of the war now engaged in between Her Majesty's Government and the two Boer Republics. A keen interest has been maintained and events critically watched.

Public opinion varied as to the attitude likely to be taken up by the Basuto, but as time went on and their unwavering loyalty became apparent much of the uneasiness at first entertained gradually subsided and gave place to greater confidenee.

In July Mocheko and many of his followers manifested a decided disinclination to submit to the authority of the young Chief Griffith Lerothodi, whose influence was fast becoming established throughout the rest of the district.

Trivial cases were constantly being brought to this office which should, according to native custom, have gone to the chief. I explained this, but my advice was not taken. In August telegraphic communication with the Cape Colony was opened. This gave general satisfaction throughout the district, and has subsequently proved of infinite value in keeping open outside communication otherwise practically cut off.

In spite of my efforts to prevent it, the conduct of Mocheko and Semenekane became more and more defiant and insubordinate.

During September gun and ammunition smuggling was very prevalent.

During this month I succeeded in obtaining conviction against a Free State border farmer, who was fined £50. This sentence was not at all well received by the majority of the burghers.

Semenekane's conduct had now become so openly defiant that I thought fit to send the headquarter messenger "Lepolisa" to warn him that if he continued in his contumacious bearing towards his chief he would most certainly incur the displeasure not only of the Paramount Chief, but also of the Resident Commissioner, who would not leave his conduct unpunished. This warning was, needless to say, unheeded, and in October, owing to Mocheko's refusal to obey a summons to Matsieng, the Paramount Chief sent his messengers to seize his cattle in order to enforce his obedience. On approaching Semenekane's village the messengers were fired upon by Semenekane in person. The Chief Seiso was sent by Lerothodi to arrest him, but he and Mocheko with a number of their adherents had fled with their arms and stock to the Herschel District. They were disarmed by order of the Magistrate, and, at my request, their stock was sent back to Basutoland.

Mocheko and Semenekane were subsequently arrested and are now at Maseru in custody.

In October, war having been declared by the Boer Republics against Her Majesty's Government, a border guard of native police and headmen was placed along the border of this district and the Orange Free State, with a view to prevent intercourse between the Boers and Basuto, or trespass from either side. This guard was and still is under the command of Sub-Inspector Mansel, and keeps in touch with a smaller guard on the Mafeteng border. At this time the Chief Malebanye reported to me that Commandant Olivier had sent friendly messages to him asking his sympathy and stating that the Boers had no quarrel with the Basuto, and desired to keep on friendly terms with them. I impressed upon Malebanye the absolute necessity of his keeping strictly aloof from Olivier and from communication with him or any Boers, explaining to him that the Boers had themselves declared war and would be entirely responsible for the downfall of the two Republics which was bound to follow their rash and unjustifiable action.

In November unrest was apparent owing to the laager placed by the Boers within sight of our border. This was soon allayed by the successful efforts of the border guard and my own personal assurance.

The pont hawser over the Cornet Spruit on the Free State side was cut this month. I wrote to Commandant Olivier by order of Sir Godfrey Lagden, informing him of what had happened and that I considered it a direct act of aggression; that unless the matter was satisfactorily explained I would consider it understood that he would be prepared for any retaliation I might think fit. In reply Commandant Olivier informed me that no instructions had been given by him or his Government and that they were in no way responsible for the act.

All the stock that had been taken from the Baphuti were by order of the Resident Commissioner restored to the owners by Lerothodi, who also sent some of his own stock to compensate for any property destroyed.

Tsehla Khorlenye, one of the head Baphuti chiefs, was arrested. He was charged with holding a seditious meeting at his village likely to cause a disturbance of the public peace. He was bound over in the sum of £50 to keep the peace for six months.

It was found this month that natives were sneaking over the border to assist the Boers to reap their wheat, which was fast becoming spoiled for want of labour. They were induced by the exceptionally high rate of wages offered. Extra guards were placed and the chiefs were warned that such persons would be dealt with for contravention of the High Commissioner's Proclamation, No. 19 of 1899, for assisting the Queen's enemies.

In December postal and telegraphic communication between Basutoland and Aliwal North was interrupted, the wires being cut by Olivier who had occupied Aliwal North.

In January about 3,000 sheep and 135 head of cattle captured from Boers who had entered Basutoland was sent here, also a Boer named Naude. He was sent on to Maseru while the stock was kept here until April, when I handed it over to the Cape police at Palmietfontein. Naude had been sent down a few days before.

At this time I had several men arrested who were suspected of being in the secret employ of the Boers.

In February I purchased 160 horses for the Imperial Government, and a very large number has since been purchased in this district for Imperial remounts.

There was great rejoicing throughout the district on the news of the relief of Kimberley being received.

In March I received several copies of Lord Roberts' Proclamation of 15th February, which I caused to be distributed in the Free State by men I had employed on intelligence work. Some copies were distributed in the Rouxville and Smithfield Districts.

In this month 120 odd Free Staters surrendered their rifles to me on the border; these rifles were all destroyed; also a large quantity of ammunition that had been handed in.

In April I arrested a Dutchman who had come with a pass from Matatiele to buy cattle. Though warned by me, this man crossed the border and was charged with breach of border regulations and fined. He was then put across the border to Palmietfontein.

I was able to send up to Maseru a good deal of information gained in the Free State (O. R. Colony) through my intelligence men. Two of these men had instructions to join the column under General Brabant proceeding to the relief of the garrison besieged at Wepener. They were able to be of great use to the column and returned with notes from officers acknowledging their good services.

Several convoys of stores and ammunition for the Imperial troops passed through *en route* for Mafeteng and Wepener.

In May Olivier was reported by my scouts to be in Elandsberg with a few adherents, and several smaller lots of Boers were reported to be in hiding in different mountains in the Rouxville District. These parties gradually dispersed, some following the commando to Thaba 'Nchu, others making off home and glad to get there.

BASUTO-LAND, 1899–1900.

A native was arrested this month charged with the most diabolical assault on a Boer woman near the border He was tried at this office and was found guilty and is now undergoing sentence.

In June a large number of arrests have been made of natives who have either stolen or brought stock into Basutoland from the Orange River Colony for secretion for Boers. The unearthing of these offenders reflects the greatest credit on the police, who have been most zealous and have displayed considerable tact in following up the different cases. They have been ably assisted by messengers of the Paramount Chief. A number of these messengers are now in the district and fresh cases are being daily discovered.

The population of the district has greatly increased during the past few years, and the mountainous parts that a few years ago were used only in summer as grazing for cattle are now peopled and largely under cultivation.

The past has been a most favourable year for all kinds of stock. Cattle, I should think, have nearly doubled in parts, not so much owing to natural increase as to introduction from outside.

It has been a most favourable season for cereals of all descriptions usually cultivated in Basutoland.

A fair amount of progress is shown in education under the two systems at work in the district, viz., the Paris Evangelical Society and the Church of England Mission. (*Vide* School Report.)

Trade being shut off from Basutoland for so many months from Colonial ports proved a considerable drawback to business. Notwithstanding this, the extra trade to refugees and others and the great demand and high prices for all kinds of stock proved a great boon to traders and brought much money into the country.

For the general health of the district, *vide* Medical Officer's Report.

The criminal record for the past year is heavier than usual owing to the prevalence of stock thefts during the past few months from the Orange River Colony. In the recovery of this the police have worked most satisfactorily and chiefs have also rendered loyal service.

Roads have been much tried during the past few months owing to the unusual amount of transport that has passed over them, all other roads being closed. They are now in good repair.

The following is schedule of various returns for the year :—

PATROL RETURN.

Number of patrols	56
Number of men	225
Estimated distance travelled	19,470 miles
Arrests for contravening Liquor Laws	2
„ „ Pass Laws ...	41
Arrests for other offences	147

A large number of the arrests are for theft and secretion of stock brought from Orange River Colony.

LOST STOCK RETURN.

Description.	Number reported.	Traced to Basutoland.	Not traced to Basutoland.	Recovered in Basutoland.
Horses	16	1	15	1
Cattle	71	57	14	55*
Sheep	401	152	249	152

* The two not recovered were found to have been killed by thieves.

GAOL RETURN.

Number of prisoners convicted	12
„ „ discharged unconvicted ...	15
„ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1900 ...	26
„ „ removed to gaol in other districts or territories.	6

There are 19 prisoners in gaol who have been only recently committed and are awaiting trial. A large proportion of those discharged unconvicted are suspected spies from the Orange Free State.

REVENUE RETURN.

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	7,324	10	0
General traders' licences ...	160	0	0
Dam licences	3	0	0
Judicial fines	67	1	6
Ferry tolls	1	10	0
Fees of court or office ...	6	15	0
Miscellaneous	53	6	9
Total	7,616	3	3

Number of huts on which tax was paid ... 7,481

Amount of arrear Hut Tax ... £258 10*s.* 0*d.*

The following is a return of criminal cases tried in my Court :—

Theft	9
Housebreaking	1
Gaol breaking	2
Contravening H.C.'s Proc., No. 19 of 1899 ...	4
" Customs Regulations	1
" Pass "	13
" Liquor "	1
" Border "	6
Rape	1
Culpable homicide	1
Resisting police	1
Other offences	2
Total	42

There was only one civil case tried during the year.

The following is the only case of flogging during the year :—Moiketsi, convicted of crime of rape and sentenced to 70 lashes. Thirty lashes have been administered under medical supervision.

PASSES.

The following passes have been issued during the year :—

For the mines, Kimberley	1
" " Johannesburg ...	20
" " Jagersfontein ...	42
" " Cape Colony ...	4
For farm and domestic service ...	169
For other purposes	1,168
Total passes issued ...	1,404

CURRENT PRICE OF STOCK, &c.

Wheat, per bag	... ...	14*s.*
Mealies	„	9*s.*
Kafir corn	„	9*s.*
Oxen	each	£12
Mixed cattle	„	£8
Horses	„	£16
Sheep (slaughter)	„	£1
Sheep (mixed)	„	10*s.*
Goats (slaughter)	„	£1
Goats (mixed)	„	10*s.*
Turkeys	„	3*s.* 6*d.*
Fowls	„	1*s.*

POLICE

The following is the strength of the police detachment :—

Sub-inspector	1
European constable	1
Native officer	1
Native sergeant	1
Native corporal	1
Lance-corporals	2
Native privates	21

All the above are mounted and equipped.

The following licences were issued during the year :—

General traders' licences	16
Hawkers	Nil.
Dam	2

The following two cases of hardship experienced by natives in the Orange Free State (O.R.C.) came to my notice during the year.

In November, 1899, a man named "Feland" complained of having his stock seized by the Boer commando near Burghersdorp. He was deprived of them without any compensation.

In March, 1900, a man named "Joss," who came from the Orange Free State to Basuto, was found to have been most shamefully treated by his master and also by the Field Cornet. He fled, leaving his pay but taking a horse, the property of his master Mentz. The matter was reported at the time, but under the circumstances of the war nothing could be done and the man was allowed to keep the horse conditionally.

J. W. BOWKER,
Assistant Commissioner,

Assistant Commissioner's Office,
Mohale's Hoek,
30th June, 1900.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.—MOHALE'S HOEK DISTRICT, 1899-1900.

During the past year there has been a falling off in the number of attendances at the dispensary as compared with that of the previous twelve months.

The following table will show this more plainly than a statement in words :—

Classification.	1898-1899.	1899-1900.
New patients (out)	2,132	2,061
Subsequent attendances	293	300
In-patients	39	32
Vaccinations	2,850	380
Free vaccinations	536	Nil
Total	5,850	2,773

The number of vaccinations has fallen off on account of no passes having been issued for the late Boer Republics, and this is cause of practically total short fall.

Of the in-patients 22 were discharged cured, 4 were not improved, 3 refused operation, 2 were slightly improved, and 1 died.

Two major operations were performed and 16 minor. Chloroform was administered 18 times without mishap. The new ward and operating room which have been built during the past year have proved very useful.

W. R. NATTLE,

Medical Officer.

Mohale's Hoek,

July 10th, 1900.

ANNUAL REPORT.—QUTHING DISTRICT, 1899–1900.

GENERAL.

Few events of general interest have occurred here during the year. The people have been quiet and orderly, with comparatively few exceptions, in spite of excitement caused by the war with the Boer Republics and the rebellion in neighbouring districts of the Cape Colony.

In October, 1899, a number of women and children from the Mohale's Hoek District took refuge in Quthing in consequence of their homes being looted by followers of Griffith Lerothodi. Some alarm was felt in this district at the time owing to certain of the men so engaged asserting that when they were finished there they were coming over to Quthing on a similar errand. Occurring as it did at the time of the war with the Boers, more importance was probably attached to this incident than it deserved; but it, unfortunately, had a very unsettling effect, more especially on the alien tribes of Baphuti and Batembu living among the Basuto.

An officer was specially sent from headquarters to investigate these matters at the end of October, 1899.

Some English farmers from Barkly East District brought their stock across the mountains for safety in November, 1899, and remained in Quthing for several months. There was also about the same time an influx of European refugees from Herschel.

In December, 1899, a number of Moiletsi's followers took advantage of the unsettled state of the Barkly East District to commit extensive thefts of stock on the Boer farms. When called to account these persons pleaded that they were spoiling the Queen's enemies. Most of the stolen stock was recovered, and the delinquents were punished by fine or imprisonment.

During the earlier months of the war some anxiety was caused by the vacillating conduct of the Basuto chief of the district, Nkuebe Letsie, who, although outwardly loyal, was disposed to listen to Boer emissaries and to doubt our ultimate success in the war.

This led at times to a certain amount of friction, which was to be regretted, as in some matters he behaved well, supplying men for patrolling the Barkly East Border during several months, and in January last sending some hundreds of his men to make a demonstration in the same quarter, when a Boer attack on this district was expected.

BASUTO-LAND, 1899-1900.

There is, however, no doubt that the stock of the brothers Naude, which were captured on the Basutoland side of the line in January last, were there by permission of Nkuebe, as he was much annoyed at the arrest of the younger Naude, and the subsequent seizure of the stock.

The closing of the ordinary postal route to the Cape Colony at the beginning of November, 1899, and the destruction of telegraphic communication, rendered it necessary to organise a service of express riders, in the first instance, to convey mails and telegrams between Palmietfontein and Moshesh's Ford, and later, as the Boer operations were extended, fresh routes had to be found across the Drakensberg to East Griqualand. Daily telegraphic intercourse was thus kept up between Maseru and the Cape Colony, and the mails were conveyed across the mountains on pack horses. Notwithstanding occasional delays caused by severe weather, flooded rivers, &c., the native carriers on the whole performed the duties very well. Fortunately, the necessities for this service only lasted through the summer months, when there was no snow to block the passes through the mountains.

Cordial relations have been maintained with the neighbouring districts of the Cape Colony and East Griqualand, except in the case of Barkly East District during the rebellion. The authorities in Griqualand East and Herschel have rendered every possible assistance in facilitating transit of mails, &c., and in police work.

Owing probably to its repression in other quarters by the military authorities, illicit trade in liquor is said to be on the increase in East Griqualand, and some of the Basuto chiefs are reported to be getting supplies thence. A report on this subject has recently been sent to the Chief Magistrate at Kokstad.

AGRICULTURE.

The maize and Kaffir corn crops are heavier this season than they have been for several years past. Locusts appeared in the summer, coming as usual from the west, but after a few applications of fungus they vanished. They appeared during their brief visit to attack the grass rather than the crops; and live stock has consequently suffered in some places from deficient pasture.

Sheep and goats do well in the mountains, and wool and mohair of good quality could be produced with a little trouble. Unfortunately, xanthium spinosum is on the increase, as are various other species of burrs; and nothing apparently will induce the natives to take proper steps for the destruction of these plants, in spite of the injury they cause to the wool.

POLICE.

The patrol work during the past year has been unusually heavy, owing to the necessity of keeping men stationed along the border during several months to check thieving, and to watch Boer movements. These duties have been satisfactorily performed by the Quthing police detachment.

MEDICAL.

Dr. A. S. Gardiner was appointed Medical Officer for this district in October, 1899. His report is attached.

EDUCATION.

Reports on Government aided schools were sent in on the 16th inst.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Telegraphic communication with the Cape Colony was established in September, 1899.

A new gaol was completed during the year, and additions have been built to the dispensary and post office.

The road contractor has recently been relieved of the charge of the roads in Quthing, which are now being repaired under the immediate control of the Government.

RETURN OF REVENUE COLLECTION.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut Tax	5,393	10	0
Licences	143	0	0
Fines	296	1	0
Ferry tolls	203	16	0
Fees of court or office... ...	7	5	0
Miscellaneous receipts... ...	35	13	6
Total	£6,079	5	6

The amount of arrear Hut Tax paid was £385 10*s.*

The number of huts on which tax was paid was 5,008.

RETURN OF PATROLS PERFORMED.

Number of patrols	53
Number of men employed	90
Number of miles covered	14,719
Arrests for contravening Pass Laws	7
Arrests for contravening Liquor Laws	Nil
Arrests for other offences	32

FLOGGINGS INFLICTED.

Number.	On whom inflicted.	Number of Lashes.	Crime.
1	Sesinye	15	Rape.

The following cases were tried in my Court during the year :—

Civil cases	1
Theft	35
Breach of the peace	3
Rape	2
Contravening Customs Regulations ...	1
Contravening Pass Laws	2
Wantonly destroying Government property	2
Resisting police	3
Assault with intent	1
Receiving stolen property	3
Assault	3
Attempted abduction	1
Contravening Special Laws with regard to Orange River Colony.	3

PRISON RETURN.

Number of prisoners received into gaol during year	58
Number of prisoners convicted and sentenced ...	58
Number of prisoners discharged unconvicted ...	Nil
Number of prisoners in gaol on 30th June, 1900 ...	8

CURRENT PRICE OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Horses	each	£10 to £25.
Oxen	„	£10 to £12 10*s.*
Cows, &c.	„	£5 to £8.
Sheep	„	10*s.* to 20*s.*
Goats	„	10*s.* to 15*s.*
Wool	per lb.	4½*d.*
Mohair	„	10*d.*
Wheat... ...	per bag	18*s.*
Mealies	„	10*s.*
Kaffir corn	„	10*s.*
Oat hay	per 100 bundles	25*s.*

POLICE.

The strength of the police detachment is as follows :—

Sub-Inspector	1
European constable	1
Native sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ privates	22
Special police	4

LICENCES.

The following licences were issued :—

General traders	14
Paid hawkers	4

LOST AND STOLEN STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced to Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Recovered	Not recovered.
Horses	35	23	12	23	12
Cattle	57	45	12	45	12
Sheep	333	—	333	—	333

RETURN OF PASSES ISSUED.

For the mines, Kimberley	Nil
„ Indwe	1
„ Jagersfontein	2
„ Johannesburg	Nil
For domestic service	1,200
For farm service	1,245

The following is a summary of complaints which reached me from natives resident in the Orange Free State during the year ended 30th June, 1890 :—

1. "Mataha."—Killed on road party, near Lundean's Nek. £15 compensation paid to relatives by Cape Colonial Government.

BASUTO-LAND, 1899–1900.

2. "Simon Mathias."—Shot by policeman near Burghersdorp. No compensation due to relatives.

3. "Johanna Makhele."—Robbed of £8 by the Boers, near Bloemfontein. No action taken owing to war.

4. "Kleinbooi."—Wages detained by his master in Orange Free State. No action taken owing to war.

5. "January."—Wages detained by his master in Orange Free State. No action taken owing to war. Case reported to Resident Commissioner.

S. BARRETT,

Assistant Commissioner.

Quthing,

30th June, 1900.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT—QUTHING DISTRICT, 1899–1900.

I arrived at this station on October 15th, 1899, and commenced my duties on the following day.

The following list gives the attendances at the dispensary for treatment and vaccination certificates during the period between October 16th, 1899, and June 30th, 1900 :—

	1899–1900.
New cases	885
Subsequent attendances	257
Hospital in-patients	5
Vaccinations	17
Total	1,164

By far the greater proportion of cases presenting themselves for treatment were those suffering from syphilis and dyspepsia. As regards the various kinds of syphilis, the greater number were in the secondary and tertiary stages, hardly any in the primary stage. Hereditary syphilis accounted for a good many cases. There is great difficulty in persuading the native that one bottle of medicine will not cure him entirely of the disease ; the consequence is that one sees now and again cases of syphilis of the tertiary stage in a most deplorable state.

The position of the hospital, isolated as it is on the top of a steep hill and far away from any large villages, prevents a great many persons from attending who would otherwise apply for relief.

The hospital has had a large airy room attached to it and this materially increases the convenience in seeing the patients.

There has been a great difficulty at times to meet the requirements of some of the patients owing to the impossibility of obtaining the yearly supply of drugs. This was due to the fact of the roads down country being blocked for wagon traffic.

The health of the district has on the whole been good. We have had no epidemic of typhoid or diphtheria either amongst the native or white population.

The only epidemics were slight ones of mumps in January and influenza during March, 1900. There were no fatal cases.

The health of the police detachment has been very good. A new site has been selected for the erection of a camp. This is very desirable as the old camp is far from sanitary.

The prisoners have also enjoyed good health, there having been no serious cases of illness among them.

ALEX. S. GARDINER,
Medical Officer.

BASUTO-LAND, 1899–1900.

ANNUAL REPORT—QACHA'S NEK DISTRICT, 1899–1900.

The past twelve months have been very peaceful in this district, the only cause for excitement among the inhabitants being the constant booming of siege guns in Natal during last December and early this year.

On the 29th November I received information from the Magistrate of Matatiele that a Boer commando was at Lehana's Pass threatening his district, and that the farmers and others were sending their stock to Basutoland for safety.

I called the principal chiefs together and informed them of the circumstances, and that it might become necessary to call on them for men to assist my police in guarding the border. They all expressed their readiness to help, but a Colonial force was promptly assembled near Mount Fletcher to prevent any encroachments, and I was not compelled to take any action.

Early in June Chief Sekake cut a lot of thatching grass belonging to Chief Mpiti. The boundary between these persons was definitely pointed out by Setha on behalf of the Paramount Chief in 1894, but notwithstanding this it is a constant source of trouble.

Liquor smuggling is increasing, the number of arrests shown on the return of patrols not representing the extent to which this illicit traffic is carried on, as it is comparatively easy to evade the police patrols with such a long border.

There are three Government aided schools in this district, all of which have been inspected and reports on them furnished.

The crops here were considerably handicapped by the drought last spring, but a better harvest has been reaped this season than last year.

No cases of ill-treatment of Basutoland natives in neighbouring territories have been reported at this office.

The increased Hut Tax has been satisfactorily paid. The revenue collected is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	2,895	10	0
Licences	25	0	0
Fines	52	5	0
Fees	0	10	0
Miscellaneous	14	8	5
Total ...	£2,987	13	5

Amount of arrear tax collected was £42.

Number of huts on which tax was paid was 2,918.

There are two licensed general traders in this district.

Five paid hawkers' licences have been issued.

LOST STOCK RETURN.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	8	6	2	6	2
Cattle	11	5	6	5	6
Sheep	76	9	67	9	58

Nine sheep have been found on owners' farms in East Griqualand, and it is supposed that four were eaten by tigers.

CASES TRIED.

The following cases were tried in this Court :—

Theft	4
Resisting police	4
Contravening Liquor Laws	4
Contravening Pass Laws	2

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Wheat	15*s.* per bag.
Mealies	10*s.* to 15*s.* „
Kaffir corn	15*s.* „
Horses	£5 to £15
Cattle	£5 to £15
Sheep	10*s.* to 20*s.*
Goats	10*s.* to 15*s.*
Wool	5*d.* per lb.
Mohair	11*d.* „
Forage (per 100 bundles) ...	15*s.* to 20*s.*

RETURN OF PASSES.

For the mines, Johannesburg	...	Nil.
„ Kimberley...	...	„
„ Jagersfontein	...	2
„ Cape Colony	...	22
For farm and domestic service	...	425
For visiting and other purposes	...	10,712

RETURN OF PATROLS.

Number of patrols	130
Number of men	174
Estimated distance travelled (miles)	4,469
Arrests for contravening Liquor Laws	4
„ „ Pass Laws	4
„ other offences	7

POLICE.

The native police consists of :—

Corporal	1
Privates	13

FLOGGINGS.

There were no floggings inflicted during the year.

GAOL RETURN.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	17
Number of prisoners convicted and sentenced	9
Number of prisoners discharged unconvicted	8
Number of prisoners in gaol on 30th June	2

E. D'U. BLYTH,
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Qacha's Nek,
30th June, 1900.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 343.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1900-1901.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 313.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1901.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
322	Bermuda	1900
323	St. Helena	"
324	Sierra Leone	"
325	Gambia	"
326	Barbados	"
327	Bahamas...	"
328	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
329	Malta	"
330	Straits Settlements	"
331	Fiji	"
332	St. Lucia	"
333	Seychelles	"
334	Falkland Islands	"
335	Mauritius	"
336	British New Guinea	1899–1900
337	Leeward Islands	1900
338	Trinidad and Tobago	"
339	British Honduras	"
340	Hong Kong	"
341	Ceylon	"
342	Gibraltar	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Report on Operations in New Territory during 1900.

No. 343.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 313.)

HIGH COMMISSIONER LORD MILNER to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

High Commissioner's Office,
Johannesburg,
October 11th, 1901.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to enclose for your information a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner, on the subject of Basutoland affairs during the year ended 30th June, 1901.

I have, &c.,
MILNER,
High Commissioner.

10230—875—11/1901 Wt 25152 D & S 5

BASUTO-LAND, 1900–1901

FROM THE ACTING RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, MASERU, TO HIGH COMMISSIONER, JOHANNESBURG.

Resident Commissioner's Office,

Maseru, Basutoland,

September, 1901.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to Your Lordship my Report upon Basutoland affairs during the year ended 30th June, 1901, together with the Annual Reports of the Acting Government Secretary, the Assistant Commissioners, and the Medical Officers.

POLITICAL.

The news of the death of Her Majesty Queen Victoria came as a particular shock to the Basuto, by whom for many years the name and personality of our late sovereign had been associated with every idea of might, justice, and mercy. The ceremony of proclaiming the accession of His Majesty the King took place at Maseru on the 31st January, 1901. The gathering was attended by every chief of importance in Basutoland, and on behalf of the nation the Paramount Chief Lerothodi begged that an address might be forwarded, expressing the sympathy of himself and his people with the royal family, and praying respectfully for a continuance of the favour and protection of the throne of England. Not unnaturally there was, underlying all expressions of sympathy and loyalty, a certain feeling of apprehension that a change of rulers might mean a change of policy towards the Basuto and other natives; but a gracious message from the King assuring the chiefs and people of His Majesty's benevolent interest in their welfare has since dispelled these fears.

The history of Basutoland for the year under report has been uneventful so far as the internal condition of the country has been affected. The unfortunate intertribal quarrels which not infrequently disturb the peace have been few in number, and not of great importance in themselves nor serious in their results. Twice during the year in Leribe District the jealousies existing between the chiefs have culminated in brawls in which firearms have been used and life has been lost. The details of the disturbances are not of general interest, and it is sufficient to place upon record the fact that the senior chiefs deserve credit for having restrained and kept within limits the turbulence of the younger men and their followers, and that the ringleaders in each case were tried and suitably punished.

It says much for the peaceful character of the Basuto that the numerous outstanding differences and disputes as to rights over land existing in almost every section of the country should, at such a period of general unsettlement, have led to no more serious resort to arms than the incidents which I have referred to. A few of such cases have been peacefully and properly adjusted in our courts, but many remain to be dealt with at a suitable time. The chiefs, without exception, are proud and jealous of their rights, any real or fancied invasion of which arouses in them violent passions strikingly at variance with their usual mild demeanour. It is impossible not to recognize the good sense and self-control exhibited by many of them.

Perhaps the most important matter which will have to be dealt with in the future is the case of the Chief Joel Molapo, against whom some serious charges will have to be brought in due time. Joel has during the year made approaches in the shape of letters and messages asking for consideration and clemency, and has also sent in to his magistrate a sum of money which he has collected as hut tax among his people. There is no doubt that he has latterly been able to see that he committed a grave political error in allowing himself to be so deeply compromised as the tool of Boer intriguers in the early part of the campaign. But I regret to say that his conduct continues to be very questionable; it would be unfair to Joel to prejudge his case or to assume too hastily that all charges made against him were well founded. But the portion of the Orange River Colony bordering upon his ward is rugged and difficult of access to troops, and in these comparatively secure retreats bands of armed Boers have been lurking during the greater part of the year. Their presence and their boasts that they were successfully defying the British troops may have counteracted the salutary effect which the surrender of Prinsloo's forces undoubtedly had in July, 1900. Unpleasant rumours are still current to the effect that Joel has and does still give the Boers in arms both sympathy and assistance.

The affairs of the Moputhi Chief Mocheko also remain to be dealt with, and the location of this troublesome person will have to be defined. Mocheko claims land rights and chieftanship to a preposterous and inadmissible extent, and in view of his personal character it will be necessary to strictly limit his sphere of influence.

The protracted hostilities in South Africa no longer occasion excitement in the minds of the Basuto. In spite of rumours which have been circulated by interested persons to the effect that the English were getting "tired," the Basuto have long been able to see that the Boers have been hopelessly beaten, and although the bands in the field may be able for a time to prolong an annoying guerilla warfare, the issue of the struggle has since the occupation of Bloemfontein been clearly foreseen by the natives. The evacuation by our troops of certain border towns and some

minor disasters that have befallen the British forces have been embarrassing incidents, somewhat trying to the faith of our best friends, and affording satisfaction to the minds of a school of native politicians, who in the difficulties of the Government see the opportunities of the governed.

In September, 1900, when for a few days the small garrison of Ladybrand was surrounded by Boer commandoes, Lerothodi promptly responded to a call made upon him and came at short notice to Maseru with a considerable body of Basuto as a demonstration in support of the defence.

The Basuto have watched the latter stages of the war in a quiet, undemonstrated, but very observant manner, and, convinced as they now are of the over-whelming power of Great Britain, are regarding the struggle being fought out as a test of our endurance and determination. The moral effect of the great campaign which has been carried on under their eyes will be complete only when they see the last Boer commando driven from the field. The natives have shrewdly extracted every possible advantage from the situation by carrying on a brisk trade in ponies, cattle, and produce at war prices. Industrious as they are and ever ready to work for good wages, they have been enrolled in thousands for employment in the non-combatant branches of the army. It has been a source of satisfaction that during a period of closure of the usual labour centres the people have been able to preserve their habits of industry and contribute to the prosperity of the country in this way. And the employment of the natives with the army must have had an educative effect. The spectacle of the enormous numbers of troops employed cannot fail to have impressed a sense of the power of the British Government upon the minds of these labourers who have returned to their villages with their stories from the front. The discipline they have been under will also, it is to be hoped, have its good effect upon them.

Correct as has been the conduct of the bulk of the people and chiefs, the temptation of being able to loot deserted border farms has proved too great for many individuals, and in one instance a whole clan (the Bataung) yielded to local excitement and crossed the border to plunder. Such acts have been dealt with by the prompt punishment of every person who has been concerned, and restoration of looted property has been enforced.

The Paramount Chief has shown a renewed interest in the scheme for the establishment of a Native Council for Basutoland. He has the support in the matter of most of the leading chiefs and councillors, and it may be possible during the coming year to shape definitely the proposals for the constitution and functions of a representative assembly for the discussion of public affairs.

The military occupation of the Orange River Colony has had the result of rendering it almost impossible for the Basuto to

obtain liquor on that border. The total arrests made by the police for liquor smuggling amounted to only 14, and these were all in the districts of Qachas Nek, Quthing, and Mohale's Hoek, of which the borders are conterminous with the Cape Colony. There is no doubt that there has been less brandy drinking in Basutoland since the outbreak of the war than at any previous time. The determined drinkers have had to send either to East Griqualand or to the northern border of the Cape Colony to obtain spirits, and the length of the journey and the danger of interception by police patrols have deterred all but the most incorrigible smugglers. It is sincerely to be hoped, in the interests of the Basuto, that the liquor trade with natives may never be permitted to revive in the Orange River Colony, and that the facilities for obtaining drink in the Cape Colonial territories may also be curtailed.

FINANCIAL.

The punctuality and completeness with which the hut tax has been paid is typical of the wise and dutiful conduct of the chiefs and people during an unsettled period. The balance to credit of the administration has been largely increased, as it has been impossible during the troublous times of the past two years to develop any schemes for the benefit of the country or to undertake some desirable public works. The Customs earnings have exceeded expectations, and probably would have been still higher but for the interruption of traffic by military operations, rinderpest, &c.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Statistical returns are included in the Government Secretary's report. A rather striking feature of these returns is the increase in the value of exports; this is due partly to the fact that it has been possible to send to Bloemfontein and Aliwal a portion of the accumulated stock of grain in the country, but in a greater measure to the export of ponies for military purposes. Of these, more than 15,000 have been sent out, making a total of 20,000 horses drawn from Basutoland for the use of the army. The value of this horse export trade is assessed at £262,991, but this does not represent a cash trade of that amount, as most of the horses were bartered for cattle. The labour returns under the circumstances are satisfactory, and the conduct and utility of the Basuto labourers is as a rule favourably reported upon by the officers in charge of military departments.

Rinderpest made its appearance near Maseru early in May, having been introduced from the Orange River Colony, and has since slowly but surely spread, until most districts of Basutoland are now more or less affected by it. By vigorous measures of quarantine and bile-inoculation it has been possible to limit the mortality amongst the cattle. A remarkable change has been

BASUTO-LAND, 1900–1901.

observable in the attitude of the natives with regard to inoculation of their cattle since the last outbreak of this disease in 1897, when it was difficult, and almost dangerous, to press them to adopt the treatment. During the present outbreak (the advantages of inoculation being recognised) the difficulty has been to restrain the owners of cattle from unauthorised and uncontrolled inoculation; an alteration of native opinion in this simple matter which is illustrative of the process under which superstitious and ignorant prejudice is losing its hold upon the people.

EDUCATION.

The educational work of the missions has been steadily carried on, and returns show an increase in the number of both schools and scholars in the country. Simple religious and moral teaching and elementary education appear best adapted to the needs of a native peasant; but it seems impossible to withhold some higher education from a certain percentage of scholars. It is almost pathetic to observe the eagerness with which some native parents desire higher education for their children. The subsequent careers of these young people do not always appear to be worthy of the sacrifices their parents have made on their behalf. The mission societies have this year received an increased grant towards education.

In connection with the subject of education, it has to be recorded that the African Methodist Episcopal Church has for two years past been sending a few ministers and catechists into Basutoland. No serious work has yet been attempted by this body, nor have they attracted many of the adherents of the existing mission churches; but the possible political significance of the movement should not be overlooked. It is under the influence of American Negro Methodists, and aims at the establishment in South Africa of a native church independent of the control of European missionaries.

HOSPITALS.

The Medical Officers' reports present a summary of the work done. Military hospitals have been organised and managed by our medical officers at Maseru, Mafeteng, and Leribe, and in these have been received and treated many patients sent in from the British columns. The Medical Officers have dealt with the extraordinary demands upon their energy and resources with praiseworthy zeal.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The work of the Native Mounted Police has been well done. Statistics are furnished in the Government Secretary's report. There have been an unusual number of cases of theft due to

the temptation—irresistible to some of the Basuto—afforded by the removal of owners of border farms and the unprotected state of the stock.

VITAL STATISTICS.

In compliance with instructions from the High Commissioner, an estimate of the population was carefully prepared, and the figures, as compared with the census of 1891, are given in the Secretary's report. It is worthy of notice that the European refugees now are three times as numerous as the usual white residents in the country. These refugees are mostly Boer farmers and their families from the border districts.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Basutoland has enjoyed the advantages of peace though surrounded by territories suffering from the ravages of war. It has been possible under these circumstances to preserve internal order, to collect the revenue, and to administer justice. The missions have been able to carry on their useful labours for the enlightenment of the people, and trade and agriculture have been fairly prosperous.

That the administration has been to the above extent successful is largely due to the efforts of the able and experienced staff of officers, whose services I beg to bring to Your Excellency's notice.

So much in Basutoland depends on the disposition and conduct of the chiefs, who exercise great power of control over the people, that in reviewing a year of government it is just to report that the Paramount Chief Lerothodi and other chiefs (among whom Jonathan Molapo is conspicious) have as a rule behaved with good sense and self-control, and have intelligently acquiesced in measures which the state of the country has rendered necessary.

I have, &c.,

H. C. SLOLEY,

Acting Resident Commissioner

His Excellency the High Commissioner,
South Africa.

BASUTO-LAND, 1900-1901.

ANNUAL REPORT.

ACTING GOVERNMENT SECRETARY, 1900-1901.

In transmitting the Annual Reports upon the various districts in Basutoland for the year ended 30th June, 1901, I have the honour to submit the following summary of statistical information contained therein :—

FINANCIAL.

Revenue for the year is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	53,341	10	0
Post Office	2,359	19	1
Licences	4,265	14	3
Fees	100	10	4
Miscellaneous receipts... ...	1,323	5	5
	61,390	19	1
Contribution from Cape Government	13,500	0	0
Total	£74,890	19	1

Expenditure for the same period was £55,485 14*s.* 1*d.* For the purposes of comparison, Revenue and Expenditure for the past three years is given :—

Year ended	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
30th June, 1899	46,847 16 8	46,417 12 9
30th June, 1900	69,769 16 4	59,492 7 6
30th June, 1901	74,890 19 1	55,485 14 5

Of the above Revenue, arrears of tax are represented by a sum of £4,795. Payments were made upon a total of 51,003 huts. Expenditure includes £3 567 incurred upon special police for defensive purposes.

TRADE AND AGRICULTURE.

Dutiable goods were imported into Basutoland from :—

	£	s.	d.
Cape Colony	114,959	0	0
Orange River Colony ...	27,749	0	0
Natal	2,766	0	0
Total ...	£145,474	0	0

The warlike operations which are still being carried on along our border tend to greatly hinder the importation of merchandize.

The harvest has generally been good ; but there are poor prospects of getting the grain, together with last year's stocks, to market.

The exports of produce compare as under with the returns of the preceding year :—

Articles.	Year ended 30th June, 1900.				Year ended 30th June, 1901.			
	Quantity.	Value.			Quantity.	Value.		
	Muids.	£	s.	d.	Muids.	£	s.	d.
Wheat	7,404	4,909	13	0	24,907	14,845	9	0
Mealies	20,685	11,450	7	0	49,916	29,104	14	0
Kaffir corn ...	1,220	705	6	0	3,949	2,502	6	0
Meal	159	293	8	0	702	867	2	0
Mealie meal ...	—	—			385	308	1	0
	Lbs.				Lbs.			
Wool ...	1,640,813	36,081	10	8	1,551,657	25,570	17	0
Mohair	194,248	9,010	8	9	196,355	7,655	3	0
Horses (No.) ...	4,419	64,031	18	0	15,684	262,991	15	9
Cattle (No.) ...	522	6,997	10	0	1,312	16,842	0	0
Miscellaneous ...	—	384	17	0	—	959	7	10
Total ...	—	133,864	18	5	—	361,646	15	7

General traders' licences numbering 126 and 83 hawkers' licences have been issued.

There has been almost a complete cessation of labourers to the mining centres. On the other hand, a large number of Basuto have been employed by the various departments of the army. The following shows the number of men who obtained passes to leave the territory:—

Object of Journey.	Number of Individuals.
To seek employment at Kimberley, Jaggersfontein, and Cape coal mines	585
Farm and domestic labour	7,995
Employed by army	11,477
Other purposes	23,815
Total	43,874

EDUCATION.

The number of Basuto lads either wholly or partly maintained by the Basutoland Government at training institutions in the Cape Colony is 20.

There are in Basutoland ... ... 188 schools.
Number of scholars on books ... 11,356
Mean average attendance ... ... 7,841·76

Expenditure under the vote "Education" amounted to £4,748 15*s.* 4*d.*

POLICE AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The Police Force consists of:—

European officers	12
European constables	7
Native officers	5
Native sergeants	7
Native corporals	8
Native privates	229
Native constables	3

This force has during the year performed the following patrols:—

Number of patrols	3,390
Estimated distance travelled (miles)	101,093
Arrests under Liquor Law	14
„ „ Pass Law	1,360
Other offences	320

484 prisoners have been received into gaol; 381 were convicted, while 164 remained in gaol on the 30th June, 1901.

No floggings have been inflicted.

The following criminal charges have been dealt with :—

Culpable homicide	11
Theft	240
Breaches of Pass and Border Regulations	140
Breaches of Trading Regulations ...	25
Resisting police	17
Assault	14
Other crimes	52
Total	499

The large increase in charges of theft is owing to the wholesale stealing of stock by Basuto in the Orange River Colony immediately the British troops had swept the Boer commandoes from our border.

Return of Lost Stock Reported.

Stock.	Reported.	Traced to Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not re-covered.
Horses	122	61	51	54	65
Cattle	326	255	71	246	80
Sheep and goats	1,306	779	310	668	634

POPULATION.

—	European.			Indian and other Coloured.			Native.			Total.
	M.	F.	Tot.	M.	F.	Tot.	M.	F.	Total.	
Census, 1891 ..	343	235	578	103	77	180	105,102	113,042	218,144	218,902
Estimated, 1901	372	275	647	—	—	206	125,819	136,742	262,561	263,414

Besides the ordinary resident population, there are as refugees in this territory from the Orange River Colony: Europeans 1,845, and natives 5,660. The latter number appears, however, to be very much under estimated,

POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH.

The following statistics regarding the work of the Basutoland offices have been courteously supplied by the Postmaster-General, Cape Town :—

	No.	Postage Value.
		£ s. d.
Letters posted in Basutoland	191,962	885 5 9
Postcards	2,783	7 17 5
Newspapers	2,800	5 16 8
Book and sample packets	2,704	22 10 8
Parcels	1,001	50 1 0
Total	201,250	971 11 6

Official correspondence posted :—

	No.	Postage Value.
		£ s. d.
Letters	11,856	98 16 0
Books	10,284	10 14 3
Total	22,140	109 10 3

Correspondence received for delivery :—

Letters	169,260
Postcards	2,470
Newspapers	59,163
Book and sample packets	11,414
Parcels	8,333
Official letters and books	15,899
Total	266,539

Money orders issued, 5,088 ; value, £21,661 5*s.* 10*d.*

Money orders paid, 822 ; value, £3,747 14*s.* 1*d.*

A total of 242 deposits, aggregating £3,708 16*s.* 11*d.*, were made in the Savings Bank, while the withdrawals numbered 53, representing a sum of £1,956 4*s.* 11*d.*

The following reports are enclosed :—

The Assistant Commissioner, Leribe.
The Assistant Commissioner, Berea.
The Assistant Commissioner, Maseru.
The Assistant Commissioner, Mafeteng.
The Assistant Commissioner, Mohale's Hoek.
The Assistant Commissioner, Quthing.
The Assistant Commissioner, Qachas Nek.
The Principal Medical Officer.
The Medical Officer, Leribe.
The Medical Officer, Mafeteng.
The Medical Officer, Mohale's Hoek.
The Medical Officer, Quthing.

F. ENRAGHT-MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

ANNUAL REPORT—LERIBE DISTRICT, 1900–1901.

Few events worth recording in this report have occurred in this district during the past year.

In September a fight occurred between Khetisa's and Ramapepe's people, in which Jonathan's son Tau joined on the side of the latter. Several men were killed and wounded, and some damage was done to property. The matter was settled by Sir Godfrey Lagden, and the chief offenders punished by fine and imprisonment.

The attitude of the various chiefs towards Government has remained much the same during the year. Joel, too, has up to quite recently maintained his attitude of disloyalty, wavering now and then as the fortunes of the Boers waxed and waned. At the moment of writing he shows a desire to return to his duty.

Hlasoa, whom Joel drove away in November, 1899, is still, with his following, a fugitive from his home and lands, and without means of support, except such small doles as are provided for old

men, women, and children, and such help as Jonathan cares to afford.

In September the neighbouring districts of the Orange River Colony, in which British authority had been established, and which were rapidly settling down, were suddenly abandoned and large numbers of refugees, British, Dutch, and native, flocked into Basutoland, including two ex-commandants, two ex-field cornets, and one ex-general. They have, as a whole, behaved well, and though their presence and necessary supervision entails much extra labour and some embarrassment and anxiety, it is satisfactory to think that the protection afforded has been the means of keeping a large number of able-bodied men and horses from the enemy's commandoes.

On the evacuation of Ficksburg on September 8th some 50 prisoners of war and a large number of stores were handed over to me by General Campbell for custody; accommodation was also found for a field hospital.

The prisoners and stores were kept until the re-occupation of Ficksburg, in February. The field hospital is still here in charge of our medical officer.

I append the following returns, which include the figures furnished by the officer in charge at Butha Buthe:—

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	11,651	0	0
Licences	494	0	0
Fines	328	12	6
Fees	13	15	10
Miscellaneous	59	2	0
Total	£12,546	10	4

Tax was paid on 11,335 huts. Arrear tax collected, £1,635.

LICENCES.

The following licences were issued:—

General traders	28
Paid hawkers	3
Free hawkers	—

PASSES.

The following passes were issued :—

For the coal mines, Cape Colony	37
To Orange River Colony for Government labour.	1,480
For other purposes	645

RETURN OF PATROLS.

Number of patrols	1,963
Number of men engaged	2,980
Distance covered	37,184 miles.

ARRESTS.

Liquor Laws	—
Pass Law	1,251
Arrests for other offences	82

CASES TRIED.

The following cases were tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court during the year :—

Theft	91
Assault	9
Resisting police...	5
Culpable homicide	3
Manslaughter	2
Housebreaking	1
Other offences in connection with border regulations.	45
Total	157

There were six civil actions.

RETURN OF LOST STOCK.

Description.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	45	3	42	6
Cattle	154	—	146	8
Sheep and goats	564	76	462	178

BASUTO-LAND, 1900–1901.

GAOL RETURN.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	... 202
„ „ convicted and sentenced	184
„ „ discharged unconvicted	16
Number of prisoners in gaol on 30th June, 1901	58

No floggings were inflicted.

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Mealies	... ...	10*s.* per bag.
Wheat...	... ...	15*s.* „
Kaffir corn	... ...	10*s.* „
Oat hay	... ...	40*s.* per 100 bundles.
Horses...	... ...	£15 to £25 (almost unobtainable).
Cattle ...	... ...	£7 to £12.
Sheep ...	... ...	10*s.* to 20*s.*
Goats ...	... ...	10*s.* to 20*s.*
Wool ...	... ...	2*d.* per lb.
Mohair	... ...	4*d.* „

POLICE.

The police at my three stations number :—

Sub-inspectors	2
Native officer	1
European constable	1
Native sergeants	2
Native corporals	2
Native privates	54

In addition to the above I have

Special constable	1
Special police	17

I attach reports of the officer in charge at Butha Buthe and Medical Officer, Leribe.

J. C. MACGREGOR,

Assistant Commissioner.

Leribe,

30th June, 1901.

ANNUAL REPORT—BUTHA BUTHE DISTRICT, 1900-1901.

Compared with the previous year, that which has just passed has been an uneventful one. On July 30th, 1900, a large Boer force surrendered to General Hunter on the borders of the district, and from that day there was a marked change in Joel's attitude, and all anxiety as to what line he might take was removed.

Selomo's ward has been the cause of trouble more than once. First, his people had a fight more or less among themselves, in which a man was killed. Then, on March 10th, Selomo's people and Tumo's had a fight, in which also a man was killed. This was a more serious affair and might easily have led to grave results.

There has been the usual quarrelling in Letsika's ward about lands, reeds, &c., but there has not been any serious disturbance. The chief feature in the year's history of that ward is the amount of stealing that has been going on.

The great majority of the criminal cases I have had to try during the year have been stock thefts from the Orange River Colony by Letsika's people. Messengers have lately been up in the Makhoakhoa District inquiring into the whole matter of cattle and stock stealing. Their work forms the subject of a separate report, already submitted.

Returns emboded in Leribe Annual Report.

W. BOXWELL,
Officer in Charge.

Butha Buthe,
30th June, 1901.

ANNUAL REPORT—BEREA DISTRICT, 1900-1901.

This year, like last year, has been quite out of the ordinary.

The war going on just across the border has overshadowed everything, and local matters and disputes have fallen into a secondary position in which little interest was taken in them except by the parties actually concerned.

The main element of trouble in the district has been Phatso Mota, who being by nature quarrelsome has taken advantage of Masupha's death to raise again all the old vexed boundary questions between himself and Mamathe.

This man by disputing each point and disregarding all decisions against him kept himself for some time fairly before the public; but when in February last he appealed to the Resident Commissioner's Court against all district decisions in his case, and lost practically every point, he made up his mind to bow to the inevitable, and since then little has been heard of him.

His brother Mphumo who had always been a strong partisan of Mamathe was removed to another ward, and up to the present it is satisfactory to note that no further disturbance has occurred.

Mamathe has maintained efficiently the border guards along the Caledon River, which have done good work.

I regret that I am unable to say as much for Peete, who from ill-health and general laxity has allowed his ward to become a hotbed of theft.

The gang of thieves, which included his son Nkutu, has, however, been completely broken up, nearly all of them having been caught and fined or imprisoned.

Peete's health, which was wretched till a month or two ago, has suddenly taken a turn for the better, and I trust that with returning strength he will get rid of his bad councillors who have been making a puppet of a naturally able man.

In September last the town of Ladybrand was attacked by the Boers in large numbers. The Boers had three or four guns, whilst our garrison had nothing but their rifles to depend on.

The siege, which was followed from this side of the border with great interest by the Basuto, lasted from Sunday morning to Tuesday night, when the Boers retired.

The Resident Commissioner with Paramount Chief Lerothodi and about one thousand armed men were present on Tuesday.

I am glad to say that the hut tax in Berea this year has been an unqualified success.

Maama Letsie was sent to represent the Paramount Chief, and with the co-operation of all the local chiefs the bulk of the tax was gathered in the first month, while the total tax far exceeded that of any other year.

Small-pox, which was severe in the early part of the year, has died out completely. I fear the death roll was heavy, especially among the young children.

The crops have not been very good this year. They were thrown back by a dry spring, and only saved by steady rains in latter half of the year.

The frost which came early consequently did a good deal of damage.

Stock is rather thin, but not so thin as one would expect in view of the bad grazing everywhere and the prevalence of so much sickness as there is.

There are some 180 white refugees and upwards of 2,000 natives, with their stock, in Berea District. They are quiet and law abiding, and give little or no trouble.

Money is very plentiful among the Basuto, their stock realizing splendid prices to Remount Departments and Commissariat.

A large number of natives have gone out to work at the front, but as these have almost entirely gone through the Government Secretary, Maseru, no return can be given herewith. Casualties to these men have been rare, and the cash they have brought back has added greatly to the present prosperity of the district.

The roads are bad and the contractor has been reported for unsatisfactory work.

I attach the usual annual returns for the past year :—

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	6,011	10	0
Licences...	378	15	0
Fees of court or office	3	19	0
Miscellaneous	0	5	0
Total ...	£6,394	9	0

Arrear hut tax amounted to £714 10*s*. Tax was paid on 5,651 huts.

STRENGTH OF POLICE.

1 Sub-inspector.
1 Constable.
1 Sergeant.
1 Corporal.
1 Lance-corporal.
24 Privates.
3 Special police.

The above, with the exception of the specials, are all well mounted, armed, and equipped.

RETURN OF PATROLS.

Number of men employed	1,022
,, patrols	511
,, miles	13,184
,, arrests for liquor ...	—
,, ,, Pass Law ...	13
,, ,, other offences	—

BASUTO-LAND, 1900–1901.

CRIMINAL CASES HEARD DURING THE YEAR.

Theft	42
Pass Law	16
Liquor Law...	—
Public violence	2
Other offences	4
Culpable homicide	2
Total	66

There were no floggings during the year, and there were no civil cases heard in the court.

No stock was reported lost at this office.

There have been throughout the year the following received and discharged from gaol :—

Received into gaol	61
Convicted	42
Discharged unconvicted	8
In gaol at present	26

The following may be taken as current prices ruling in the district :—

Horses	£13 to £20
Oxen	£10 to £12
Cows	£7 to £9
Sheep	15*s.* to 25*s.* for hamels.
Goats	10*s.* to 15*s.*
Mealies	12*s.* 6*d.* per muid.
Kaffir corn	12*s.* „
Wheat	15*s.* „
Fine grease wool ...	3*d.* per lb.
Coarse „ ...	1*d.* „
Mohair „ ...	6*d.* „

There are at the present date 22 traders' licences in Berea District, and during the past 12 months there have been two hawkers' licences given, of which two were free.

The number of passes issued at this office was as under :—

For labour	74
For other purposes	428

L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—MASERU DISTRICT, 1900–1901.

Few events of general interest have occurred in the district during the year.

The continuation of the war is irksome and wearying to both Europeans and natives, and all will be thankful to see the end of it. The system of border patrols has been maintained, and exceptionally few cases of theft from the uninhabited farm houses have taken place; such cases as have come to our notice received prompt attention, and the offenders were severely dealt with.

The news of the demise of Her Majesty Queen Victoria was a great blow to us all, and was received with expressions of greatest sorrow. The natives received it with some alarm, and expressed the hope that His Majesty the King would treat them with as much care and patience as their late ruler had done.

A representative gathering of chiefs and councillors assembled at Maseru to witness the reading of the Proclamation announcing the accession of His Majesty King Edward VII. Speeches expressing sympathy with the British Empire at the loss it had sustained, and loyalty to our King, were made by the Paramount and other chiefs.

Numerous Boer families, to avoid being removed to refugee camps, were allowed to take refuge in Basutoland and bring a limited quantity of stock with them.

During the year a fair supply of remounts for the army has been procured in the district in exchange for cattle, but I regret to say that these cattle have been the means of introducing lung sickness throughout the ward, and that the mortality has been exceptionally heavy.

About the end of last April it was discovered that some stock belonging to native refugees from the Orange River Colony had rinderpest and had infected several herds en route to its destination. The areas were at once isolated and bile inoculation proceeded with as quickly as possible, with very satisfactory results. The disease also broke out at three other places wherein inoculation has stamped it out. Generally speaking, the outbreak is in a much milder form than in 1897, and its progress is slow.

COMMERCIAL.

Trade has been good. The following are current prices of Basutoland produce :—

Cattle	£10 to £15
Horses	£15 to £25
Sheep	20*s.* to 25*s.*
Goats	5*s.* to 10*s.*
Wheat	12*s.* to 17*s.* 6*d.*
Mealies	10*s.* to 13*s.*
Kaffir corn	10*s.* to 13*s.*
Wool	3*d.* per lb.
Mohair	4*d.* „

PUBLIC WORKS.

The public roads received the usual attention, and are in fair order. Public buildings are in good order and repair.

POLICE.

The strength of the Maseru detachment has been increased and consists of :—

Sub-inspector	1
European constables	3
Native constables	2
„ sergeant	1
„ corporals	2
„ privates	56

PATROLS.

The following are particulars of patrols performed during the year :—

Number of patrols	4
Number of men engaged	20
Number of miles patrolled	3,502
Arrests for contravening Liquor Laws	—
Arrests for other offences	9

LOST STOCK.

Return showing action taken in the matter of recovering lost and stolen stock reported :—

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	—	—	—	—	—
Cattle	—	—	—	—	—
Sheep	3	—	3	—	3
Goats	—	—	—	—	—

LICENCES.

The following licences were issued during the year :—

General traders	22
Paid hawkers	1
Free hawkers	—

CRIME.

The following cases were disposed of :—

Theft	19
Accessory to theft	2
Housebreaking and theft...	1
Contravening Pass Regulations	18
Rape	1
Assault with intent to commit rape ...	1
Contravening Trading Regulations ...	4
„ Masters and Servants Act	1
Resisting police	1
Contempt of court	1
Civil cases	1

RETURN OF PASSES.

For Johannesburg mines	—
For Kimberley „	17
For Jagersfontein „	—
For coal mines (Cape Colony) ...	—
For domestic service	1,262
For other purposes	5,149
Total	6,428

REVENUE.

The Revenue for the year consists of :—

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	9,769	10	0
Licences	221	0	0
Fines	125	15	0
Ferry tolls	570	16	6
Fees	20	13	6
Miscellaneous	150	4	0
Total ...	£10,857	19	0

Tax was paid on 9,438 huts.

Arrear tax amounts to £882 10*s*.

RETURN OF PRISONERS.

Number of prisoners received into gaol during year		22
„	„ convicted and sentenced ...	22
„	„ discharged unconvicted ...	—
„	„ in gaol on 30th June, 1901 ...	33

No floggings were inflicted during the year.

C. GRIFFITH,
Assistant Commissioner.

Maseru,
June 30th, 1901.

ANNUAL REPORT.—MAFETENG DISTRICT, 1900-1901.

The political condition of Mafeteng District during the past twelve months has been regulated by outside influences, which have affected the Basuto more or less.

The people themselves have been law abiding and the chiefs have cheerfully and ably assisted in carrying out all Government measures.

Military movements and operations in the Orange River Colony, according to their nature, have interested or excited the natives and it was a matter of regret when the British garrison was withdrawn from Wepener in January.

The column, 700 strong, crossed the Basutoland border into Mafeteng District and marched south en route to Aliwal North.

The column was accompanied by a party of Basuto guides specially appointed by the Resident Commissioner, and the troops and their transport passed through the district in perfect order, the natives greeting them with acclamation along the line of march.

Since the garrison withdrew from Wepener several British columns passed through the Orange River Colony clearing the country, and the commanding officers have, from time to time, sent many Boer families and their moveable property into Basutoland. Over 500 such refugees, men, women, and children, are now in this district. The men hold the usual protection certificates issued by officers of the Orange River Colony, and all have been registered at the Assistant Commissioner's Office.

A vast number of natives who were domiciled in the Orange River Colony have also come here with their stock.

Basutoland is regarded as a safe highway for sending captured stock to the Cape Colony, and consequently the Basuto of this district have suffered on account of damage done to pasturage and cultivated lands.

The country is overstocked owing to refugee stock of all kinds and to captured stock sent by the military authorities to the remount officers to exchange for ponies. The indiscriminate introduction has brought disease into the country, and the cattle were badly affected with lung sickness and horses with a variety of complaints.

The outbreak of rinderpest at Don-Don on the Caledon River was directly traced to cattle brought into Basutoland from the Orange River Colony.

The disease spread into Mafeteng District and infected several herds in Kolo Ward. A quarantine was formed, and inoculation with bile is being energetically carried on inside this area by competent persons appointed by Government. So far the disease does not seem of so virulent a type as that which destroyed cattle in 1897. The rapidity of the work of inoculation entirely depends on the supply of suitable bile, and the plan now being carried out is a thorough system of progressive inoculation of cattle from Kolo through the district. If the supply of bile can be kept up it is hoped that inoculation will stamp out the disease.

The Mafeteng Hospital has been occupied by sick and wounded men sent in from columns operating in adjacent districts of the Orange River Colony, and all have received every care and attention from the District Medical Officer and hospital staff.

A few cases of theft by Basuto in the Orange River Colony were promptly dealt with and the stolen property recovered.

The border was closed and no natives were allowed to enter the Orange River Colony, and the Basutoland Mounted Police constantly patrolled the frontier and enforced the regulations.

Repairs have been carried out to Government buildings at the Magistracy, and the district roads have been maintained in good order.

A dam wall is in course of construction at a vley on the reserve, and when the work is completed a large supply of water will be secured for stock.

Religious instruction and educational work amongst the natives is energetically carried on by the clergy of the various mission societies.

The Mafeteng detachment of Basutoland Police is well equipped, and the men have good horses though the latter have been considerably overworked during the last six months.

BASUTO-LAND, 1900–1901.

The strength of the detachment is :—

Sub-inspector	1
European constables	1
Native officers	2
Native sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ privates	32
„ constable	1

One sub-inspector and eight special police were attached.

The police did good service, as the following statistics show :—

Number of patrols	602
Number of men employed	1,079
Number of miles patrolled	18,785
Number of arrests	73

The civil and criminal cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court were as follows :—

Civil actions	1
Theft	22
Liquor Regulations	—
Homicide	1
Other crimes	12

GAOL.

Number of prisoners received into gaol during year	36
Number of prisoners discharged unconvicted ...	31
Number of prisoners convicted and sentenced ...	5
Number of prisoners in gaol on 30th June, 1901 ...	16

No floggings were inflicted.

I append a return showing result of tracing lost and stolen stock :—

Description.	Reported.	Traced to Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not recovered.
Horses ...	—	—	—	—	—
Cattle ...	12	12	—	12	—
Sheep ...	35	35	—	31	4

The undermentioned trading licences were issued :—

General traders	23
Paid hawkers	2
Free hawkers	2

The crops were generally poor, owing to the want of rain at proper seasons, and to early frosts.

A great number of horses were purchased by the military for remount purposes.

The following were the ruling prices :—

Wheat, per 200 lbs.	12*s.* to 15*s.*
Mealies „	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Kaffir corn „	15*s.*
Barley, per 165 lbs.	12*s.*
Oats, per 163 lbs.	15*s.*
Oat hay, per 100 bundles ...	30*s.*
Slaughter cattle, each	12*l.* to 15*l.*
Horses „	12*l.* to 20*l.*
Sheep „	10*s.* to 15*s.*
Goats „	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Wool, per lb.	3*d.*
Mohair „	6*d.*

I append a return of Revenue collected :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut Tax	8,501	10	0
Licences	232	0	0
Fines	360	2	0
Fees	10	1	11
Miscellaneous	112	15	9
Total ...	£9,216	9	8

Tax was paid on 7,962 huts.

Arrear hut tax collected amounts to £539 10*s.*

The border being closed owing to the war, only the undermentioned number of persons received passes at the Assistant Commissioner's Office to leave the territory :—

For the mines, Johannesburg	—
„ „ „ Kimberley	—
„ „ „ Jagersfontein	36
„ „ coal mines, Cape Colony ...	5
„ „ farm and domestic service ...	1,838
„ „ other purposes	2,198

In addition to the above, large gangs of Basuto labourers were forwarded to Bloemfontein and other centres on requisition of the military authorities.

T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

Mafeteng.
30th June, 1901.

BASUTO-LAND, 1900-1901.

ANNUAL REPORT.—MOHALE'S HOEK DISTRICT, 1900-1901.

As I only assumed charge of this district on 17th June, I regret that I am not in a position to forward a full report of events during the year.

Here, as elsewhere, the war has been the absorbing topic of the year, and public attention among the natives seems to have been centred on the military operations occurring in the Orange River Colony in the immediate neighbourhood of their border, rather than on the multifarious causes of petty squabbles which are always cropping up among the mixed tribes of this district.

The Mocheku-Griffith case is still smouldering, but with Mocheku in safe keeping at Maseru it can hardly do more than smoulder till affairs seem ripe to settle it finally.

In May last the Bataung, seeing so many dismantled and deserted farms in their vicinity, were unable to resist the temptation, and—losing their heads altogether—they raided in large numbers with vehicles of all sorts into the Orange River Colony. They managed to collect a good deal of more or less worthless furniture, &c., and odds and ends, which they brought into Basutoland. The Resident Commissioner came down on the 16th with Lerothodi, and, after enquiring into the case, ordered all the raiders to pay a stiff fine and to surrender all loot which had been taken, to me at this office.

The fine was promptly paid, and a large quantity of furniture, &c., was brought in and registered and stored in the Government buildings to await disposal at the cessation of hostilities.

I attach a report on the health of the district by the Medical Officer. A report on schools has already been sent in.

The Revenue of this district shows a large increase on last year, as will be seen by the following return :—

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	8,762	0	0
Licences	151	10	0
Fines	542	2	6
Fees of court or office ...	4	19	0
Miscellaneous	109	2	6
Total	£9,569	14	0

I attach the usual district annual returns :—

STRENGTH OF POLICE.

European sub-inspector	1
European constable	1
Native sergeant	1
Native corporal	1
Native 1st class privates	5
Native 2nd class privates	18
Native special police	9

With the exception of the special police the above are all clothed, mounted, and equipped.

PATROLS.

The following patrols were carried out and arrests made during the year :—

Number of patrols	69
Number of men engaged	226
Mileage covered by patrols	18,950
Arrests—Liquor	6
„ No passes	51
„ Miscellaneous	146

LOST STOCK REPORTED.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Recovered.	Not traced.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses	19	7	7	12	12	—
Cattle	123	68	67	55	56*	* 1 beast killed by thieves for food.
Sheep, &c.	319	98	98	221	221	

RETURN OF PASSES.

Kimberley and Jagersfontein ...	—
Johannesburg and Cape Colony coal mines	—
Farm and domestic labour	2,039
Other purposes	2,814
Total	4,853

A large number of men were sent out for military purposes, viz., railway work, &c., but these are not included in above return.

BASUTO-LAND, 1900–1901.

CRIMINAL CASES.

Criminal cases heard in this Court are as under :—

Culpable homicide	3
Liquor Law...	9
Theft	53
Assault	1
Passes and Border Regulations ...	20
Forgery	1
Miscellaneous	15
Total	102

There were no floggings and no civil cases.

GAOL RETURN.

Prisoners committed to gaol	87
„ sentenced	55
„ discharged unconvicted	28
„ removed to other gaols	4
„ in gaol on 30th June, 1901... ...	10

CURRENT PRICES.

The average price of stock and grain at present may be taken as under :—

Horses	£10 to £35
Cattle	£6 to £14
Sheep	6*s.* to 12*s.* 2*d.*
Mealies, per bag	10*s.*
Kaffir corn „	20*s.* 2*d.*
Wheat „	15*s.*

Money is plentiful among the natives, and trade would be brisk if an adequate supply of goods could be kept up ; this, however, is barely possible in view of the regulations against rinderpest instituted by the Cape Government at Palmeitfontein.

There is a good deal of sickness about among cattle and horses, but not so much as might be expected when one remembers the miscellaneous crowds of captured stock which for the past year have been poured into and through the district.

Arrear hut tax during year amounted to £671, whilst hut tax was paid on 8,091 huts.

L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

Mohale's Hoek,
30th June, 1901.

ANNUAL REPORT.—QUTHING DISTRICT, 1900-1901.

Little of general interest has occurred in Quthing district during the past year.

The excitement caused by the war with the Boers has quieted down to a great extent, the issue being no longer looked upon as doubtful.

This district not bordering on the Orange River Colony, there was less temptation, as compared with some other parts of Basutoland, for the Quthing natives to indulge in looting on Boer farms. A certain amount of thieving has gone on, but not much more than prevails in ordinary times. This was proved, in the course of an inquiry which was held here in August, 1900, by messengers from the Paramount Chief, when it was found that out of some hundreds of stock brought in by natives during the war, only a comparatively small number could not be properly accounted for.

A gang of horse thieves was traced out and several of them arrested in October, 1900, the ringleader only contriving to escape for a time, and being captured by the Assistant Commissioner of Berea some months later. From the confessions of these men, it appears that they were in the habit of stealing horses from Basutoland and selling them in East Griqualand, principally to a well-known trader in the Mount Fletcher district. This traffic appears to have been carried on for some considerable time.

Illicit trade in Cape brandy still continues, as previously reported, principally with East Griqualand for the time being. A conviction was obtained against one Macdonald, another Mount Fletcher trader, in July, 1900, but the case was quashed, on review, on some technicality.

A number of complaints from natives of alien races, such as Baphuti and Ba-Tembu, against the Basuto chiefs for harsh and unfair treatment have been brought to this office in the course of the year. It would also seem from the increasing frequency of such complaints that the intention is to drive these aliens to remove out of the territory and to leave Basutoland for the Basuto. As, however, Quthing District (formerly Moirosi's country) was originally the home of the Baphuti, with whom some Tembu clans were incorporated, it is manifestly undesirable that they should be dispossessed by the Basuto, most of whom are comparatively new comers having settled in the district in the course of the last 20 years.

Cordial relations are maintained with the neighbouring districts of the Cape Colony. Evidence tendered against the East

BASUTO-LAND, 1900–1901.

Griqualand trader, who made a practice of buying stolen horses, has not been taken advantage of, and the liquor traffic goes on unchecked by the Colonial authorities.

The crops have mostly been scanty here, owing principally to drought. Locusts made their appearance as usual in the early summer and did some damage among the wheat, but their stay was not prolonged. A number were destroyed by means of the locust fungus obtained from the Cape Bacteriological Department.

Large numbers of cattle, mares, and sheep have been purchased by natives from the Imperial Remount Department during the last few months. It is to be wished that steps might be taken to diminish the number of inferior pony stallions at present running half-wild in the mountains, as, with the present influx of well bred mares, there is a chance under proper management of materially improving the race of Basuto ponies. Unluckily the Basuto habitually castrate all their best colts, for fear of their neighbours deriving benefit from them as stallions, and as a rule only the worthless ones are left entire. The rapid deterioration of the breed is largely due to this cause, assisted to some extent by the effects of overstocking on a diminishing pasturage.

The largely increased traffic through this district to North Basutoland, owing to ordinary routes being closed through the Orange River Colony, has put considerable strain on the local wagon roads, which, however, are in passable order.

A new pont is required for the Orange River, the present one being nearly worn out.

The water works at Moyeni Camp have maintained their supply through the year, in spite of the drought which prevailed during most of the summer.

Some improvements have been effected with a view to securing purer water and increased pressure.

Reports on the Government aided schools have been recently sent in.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	5,514	0	0
Licences	142	19	6
Fines	257	10	0
Ferry tolls	341	11	3
Fees of court or office... ...	5	18	6
Miscellaneous receipts... ...	142	18	0
Total	£6,404	17	3

Amount of arrear tax paid was £243.

Number of huts on which tax was paid was 5,437.

LICENCES.

General hawkers' licences issued ...	14
Paid hawkers' „ „	2
Grain passes	13

PASSES.

Passes for mines, Johannesburg ...	1
„ „ Kimberley... ...	133
„ „ Jagersfontein ...	17
„ coal mines, Cape Colony ...	90
„ farm and domestic service	1,799
„ other purposes	6,003
Total	8,043

POLICE.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-inspector	1
European constable	1
Native sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ privates	23
Special police	4

RETURN OF PATROLS.

Number of patrols	74
Number of men employed	128
Number of miles patrolled	4,164
Arrests for contravening Pass Regulations.	45
Arrests for contravening Liquor Regulations.	6
Arrests for other offences	5

CASES TRIED.

The following is a return of cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court:—

Theft	12
Contravening Pass Regulations	29
Contravening Special Laws *re* Orange River Colony.	1
Contravening Special Border Regulations	13
Contravening Trading Regulations ...	10
Resisting police	10
Assault	4
Culpable homicide	2
Contempt of court	1
Trespass on private property for an unlawful purpose.	1
Escape from custody	2
Attempt to escape	2
Conspiring to defeat ends of justice ...	1
Forging and issuing a forged document ...	1
Attempt to defraud Government	1
Being in unlawful possession of arms the property of His Majesty's Government.	1
Civil cases	2

GAOL RETURN.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	54
Number of prisoners convicted and sentenced ...	54
Number of prisoners discharged unconvicted ...	—
Number of prisoners in gaol on 30th June, 1901 ...	17

No floggings were inflicted.

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Horses	£10 to £20.
Oxen	£10 to £15.
Cows	£5 to £10.
Sheep	10*s.* to 20*s.*
Goats	10*s.* to 15*s.*
Wool	3*d.* per lb.
Mohair	6*d.* „
Wheat...	16*s.* per bag.
Mealies	14*s.* „
Kaffir corn	20*s.* „

RETURN OF LOST OR STOLEN STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	42	9	33	5	37*
Cattle	37	21	16	21	16
Sheep	5	5	—	—	5†
Goats	87	77	10	77	10

S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

Quthing,
30th June, 1901.

ANNUAL REPORT—QACHA'S NEK DISTRICT, 1900–1901.

Very little of any importance has occurred in this district during the year.

The progress of the war has been keenly watched, and the Basutos are unable to understand why the Boers do not submit to the inevitable; to their minds, they are of opinion that the enemy are hopelessly beaten.

In March a dispute arose between Chiefs Sekake and Nkhuebe Letsie, residing in Quthing, over some derelict stock.

Sompe, the latter's son, living near the border, came over with an armed following and drove Sekake's people away from their cattle posts in the mountains, and destroyed the huts. No opposition appears to have been offered, so the arms were not used. This matter is being attended to by the Paramount Chief, who also has in his hands the longstanding boundary question between Mpete and Sekake, which I mentioned in my last report.

A murder of rather a brutal nature was committed above Sethlabatebes, in Chief Sekakla's ward, by a Hlangwani named Sekale, who waylaid a Zulu returning home to Natal with some goats and killed him with a kerrie and then buried the body. Not

* Four traced to Matatiele. Thieves fined by Chief Nkuebe.

† Sheep were slaughtered before discovery. Compensation paid to owners.

until a month afterwards was the corpse discovered by relations of deceased; and the case was subsequently dealt with at Maseru by the Resident Commissioner, who convicted and sentenced him to twenty years' imprisonment.

The sad intelligence announcing the death of Her Majesty Queen Victoria was received here on the 23rd January; the unexpected news came as a shock.

Large swarms of lucusts appeared throughout the district at the commencement of the new year, but owing to the very backward condition of all crops no damage was done.

Lung sickness has been rife since January; the infected areas were promptly quarantined and inoculation carried on; the disease took a virulent form and an unusually high percentage of cattle died. In all instances the outbreaks were traced to stock which the Remount Department had exchanged away for horses at Hlakanelos'.

In consequence of the above, the Cape Government closed their border against all cattle from Basutoland.

There has been a steady demand for good serviceable ponies, and large numbers have been sold by the natives who have been tempted by the enhanced prices paid.

The crops consisting of wheat, mealies, and kaffir corn have been a complete failure this season due to the very severe drought which did not break up till last January. I fear there will be a good deal of distress before next year's harvest can be reaped.

Sheep and goats appear to thrive very well in these mountainous regions; they are entirely free from scab.

The mortality amongst young children has been particularly severe.

At this camp the water supply is very limited.

There are three Government aided schools in this district; reports on them were sent in last month.

No cases of ill-treatment of Basutoland natives in neighbouring territories have been reported at this office.

The following are the usual annual returns:—

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	3,136	0	0
Licences	85	0	0
Fines	34	10	0
Fees of court or office ...	1	0	0
Miscellaneous	2	2	0
Total ...	£3,258	12	0

Amount of arrear hut tax collected was £109 10*s*.
Number of huts on which tax was paid was 3,089.

LICENCES.

General traders' licences issued ...	2
Paid hawkers' „ „ ...	65

POLICE.

The strength of the police detachment is as follows:—

Corporal	1
Privates	14

CASES TRIED.

The following cases were tried in my Court:—

Theft	11
Contravening Section VII. ...	2
Contravening Pass Regulations ...	1
Housebreaking	1
Resisting police	1
Other offences	3

RETURN OF PATROLS.

Number of patrols	194
„ Men employed	272
„ Miles patrolled	5,326

ARRESTS.

For contravening Pass Regulations	—
„ „ Liquor „ ...	2
„ other offences	5

RETURN OF PASSES.

Passes for mines, Johannesburg ...	—
„ „ Kimberley ...	—
„ „ Jagersfontein ...	—
„ „ Cape Colony ...	—
„ farm and domestic service	1,059
„ visiting and other purposes	7,006

GAOL RETURN.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	22
Number of prisoners convicted and sentenced	19
Number of prisoners discharged unconvicted	*—
Number of prisoners in gaol on 30th June	4

No floggings were inflicted.

* Three prisoners were handed over to the Cape Government under the Fugitive Offenders Act.

LOST STOCK RETURN.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	10	—	—	—	10
Sheep	217	—	—	—	217

CURRENT PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Horses	£10 to £30
Cattle	£8 to £16
Sheep	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Goats	10*s.* to 20*s.*
Wool	3½*d.* per lb.
Mohair	7*d.* „
Wheat	25*s.* per bag.
Mealies	25*s.* „
Kaffir corn	30*s.* „

E. DUBLYTH,
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Qacha's Nek,
30th June, 1901.

REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER, BASUTOLAND, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1901.

The number of attendances treated during the past year shows a slight increase on that of the previous year at some of the stations. At Maseru and at Mafeteng the influx of military patients interfered somewhat with the ordinary routine work.

The following table shows the number of patients treated at each station :—

Station.	New Cases.	Subsequent attendances.	Vaccinations.	In-patients.	Totals.
Leribe ...	3,065	426	540	64	4,095
Maseru ...	6,060	137	—	37	6,234
Mafeteng ...	3,984	—	1,362	42	5,388
Mohale's Hoek	2,711	343	5,791	44	8,889
Quthing ...	1,258	217	5,546	—	7,021
Total ...	17,078	1,123	13,239	187	31,627

The general health of the territory has been on the whole good. There have been an unusually large number of cases of enteric fever among men returning from work on the military railways.

The small-pox epidemic referred to in my last report has subsided, and the country generally has been and is practically free from this disease.

I regret to state that scarlet fever has recently made its appearance, but the epidemic does not appear to be of a severe type.

The health of the police throughout the territory has been uniformly good. No serious cases of illness have occurred among the prisoners.

EDWARD C. LONG,
Principal Medical Officer.

BASUTO-LAND, 1900-1901.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT—LERIBE, 1900-1901.

From the subjoined table it will be seen that there is a considerable decrease in the attendances all round. This is partly due to the absence of any serious or widespead epidemic during the period under review, and also to the closing of the dispensary and hospital for a month whilst alterations and repairs were being done to the buildings.

—	1900-1901.	1899-1900.	Increase.	Decrease.
Out-patients, dispensary ...	3,065	3,570	—	505
„ { subsequent attendances }	426	353	73	—
In-patients, hospital ...	64	84	—	20
Vaccinations	540	1,825	—	1,285
Total	4,095	5,832	73	1,810

EPIDEMICS.

There were no serious epidemics during the year. Small-pox, which was referred to in last report, was stamped out in August in Mitchell's ward. The epidemic was confined to two villages and was mild in character. Towards the end of July Samuel's village, which adjoins the reserve, became infected. The disease was confined to one family and did not spread. Vaccinations with calf lymph were made in all the surrounding neighbourhood; 540 were vaccinated at this time, which represents the total for the year.

A few cases of whooping cough and measles were seen, but they were the dregs of the previous epidemics.

Seventeen cases of enteric fever were seen, but in none of the cases was the disease contracted in Basutoland. The patients were all boys who had returned ill from the railway works or from the army in the Orange River Colony.

GENERAL HEALTH OF DISTRICT.

This has been good during the year, and it is pleasing to record that the number of patients presenting themselves for treatment for venereal diseases is rapidly decreasing.

Twelve cases of leprosy were seen at the dispensary; they were all in the preliminary stages of the disease. There is little doubt that this malady is on the increase in this territory, and it will increase more rapidly in the future unless some precautionary measures are adopted. Insanity, which is also on the increase, calls for attention.

Hospital Work.

Most of the cases treated in the hospital were surgical. The walls of the two wards have been renovated and painted, and additional equipment in the way of bedding has greatly helped the quality of the work done and the comfort of the Medical Officer and the patients. The addition of a native nurse to the hospital staff has supplied a long-felt want.

Thirty operations were done under chloroform during the year. Three patients died, one from gangrene, one from fracture of the cranium, and the other from acute atrophy of the liver.

Health of Prisoners.

This has been good during the year notwithstanding the crowded condition of the gaol. Two of the prisoners developed leprosy, and, on my recommendation, they were liberated and kept under observation at their home, which is situate at an isolated spot near the river.

A new gaol has been erected, and the increased accommodation has already decreased what little sickness there was.

General.

On the evacuation of Ficksburg by the troops on September 8th, 1901, a number of Boer prisoners, with a guard, in all about 80 men, were stationed here. Until the left half of the 23rd field hospital arrived the men were treated at the dispensary. On October 10th the field hospital was moved into this camp and I was put in charge. It still remains here and has been used for the last month as a convalescent home to the stationary hospital, Ficksburg.

Since the hospital passed into my care 102 patients, mostly enteric cases, have been accommodated.

At the present time the hospital is housed in one of the Government buildings.

N. M. MacFarlane, M.D.,
Medical Officer.

BASUTO-LAND, 1900–1901.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT—MAFETENG DISTRICT, 1901.

During the past twelve months there have been 4,026 native attendances at this institution.

Of the above, 42 were in-patients for periods varying from one day to nine weeks.

There were two deaths in the 42 cases, one from septicæmia and the other from perforation of the intestines.

The number of in-patients would have been considerably larger but for the fact that during the last six months of the period under review all our available resources, in the way of buildings and beds, have been placed by the Basutoland Government at the disposal of the military authorities for military patients, and a monthly average of over 20 in-patients, from various corps of the army, has been kept up since 29th January, 1901. These cases comprised gun-shot wounds, injuries from accident, and diseases, 70 per cent. of the admissions being for enteric fever.

There has been no death among the soldier patients, and all but 13 have now been returned to duty or sent to convalescent institutions.

The out-patient attendance has been well kept up, the numbers for the twelve months being 3,984.

Of this number, 3,154 paid their sixpenny fee; the remaining 830 represent the "free" patients, police, their families, and others entitled to free treatment.

The number of vaccination certificates issued this year is much less than usual, being only 1,362 for the twelve months. This is due to the war.

Both the camp and district of Mafeteng have been a place of refuge for a number of fugitives from the Orange River Colony, and their number has had to be taken into account, as far as the camp is concerned, in the matters of sanitation and of water supply.

The water supply ran very short a few weeks ago, and things looked serious, with a diminished supply and an increased demand, but work at the reservoir and higher up, at the instance of the Assistant Commissioner, resulted in what is a sufficient but not an abundant supply.

I should be glad of an improvement in our water supply, in face of the dry months we have still probably before us, before the rainy season.

Enteric fever and whooping cough are the two diseases which have been most prominent.

There has been a considerable mortality from enteric in the district, mostly amongst young adults.

A number of young children have been carried off by catarrhal pneumonia as a complication of whooping cough.

I have not seen nor heard of a single case of small-pox in the district of Mafeteng or in the camp.

The health of the police detachment under my care continues to be satisfactory; in fact, I consider that, under the circumstances of war, overcrowding, and a not too abundant water supply, the general health of Mafeteng is in a very good condition.

D. M. TOMORY, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer.

Mafeteng,
June 30th, 1901.

ANNUAL MEDICAL REPORT—MOHALE'S HOEK HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY, during year 1900–1901.

Number of cases treated in hospital and as out-patients at dispensary has largely increased when compared with that of previous years.

This shows, I think, that the natives appreciate the medical and surgical assistance which the Government place at their disposal more and more every year.

There were 2,265 vaccination certificates issued to people proceeding to other territories in search of work, and 3,526 persons were vaccinated free of charge by vaccinators sent out to various parts of the district during the prevalence of small-pox during the latter half of last year. The following table gives the attendance of this and the previous twelve months in detail :—

—	1899–1900.	1900–1901.	Increase.
New cases, out-patients	2,061	2,711	650
Subsequent attendance	300	343	43
In-patients...	32	44	12
Vaccination certificates issued ...	380	2,265	1,885
Free vaccination performed ...	—	3,526	3,526
Total	2,773	8,889	6,116

BASUTO-LAND, 1900-1901.

Small-pox made its appearance in the Chief Griffith's ward at the end of 1900, and there were some 89 cases of the disease reported to me; of these 14 died—a small percentage.

With free vaccination of persons in infected villages, as well as of all villages around, and quarantining of those persons affected, as well as the villages in which they resided, as far as practicable the disease was soon got under.

About the same time an epidemic of measles appeared, and several children not carefully nursed died of complicating affections.

Typhoid has cropped up at odd times, and cases have been mostly imported. The disease has certainly not taken a very dangerous form and few infections have occurred from original cases.

Police and prisoners have enjoyed good health, and camp has generally been free from any outbreaks of a serious nature.

Of the 44 patients treated in the hospital four were still under treatment at the end of period under review.

Of the remainder, one died in hospital; three refused operative treatment, and died within a month of removal home; 33 were cured; and three were not improved.

Thirty-seven were surgical cases and seven medical.

Twenty-six operations were performed, mostly minor.

W. R. NATTLE,

Medical Officer.

Mohale's Hoek,

June 30th, 1901.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER, QUTHING, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1901.

The following figures will show the number of out-patients and vaccinations performed during the year :—

Out-patients	1,258
Returned for treatment	217
Vaccinations	5,546
Total	7,021

Thirteen in-patients were temporarily accommodated in the dispensary. Of this number 10 were admitted for operation.

There was one death. Chloroform was administered 14 times, ether once.

The district was visited by the usual epidemics of measles, whooping-cough, chicken-pox, and influenza, and there was one case of scarlet fever.

The health of the police detachment and of the prisoners has been good.

It is earnestly to be hoped that a way will be seen to build an entirely new camp for the police away from the present site.

A small room for the accommodation of cases of accident or emergency is also badly wanted.

ALEX. S. GARDINER,

Medical Officer.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 380.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1901-1902.

(For Report for 1900–1901, *see* No. 343.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
January, 1903.

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1903.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
356	Falkland Islands	1901
357	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
358	Malta	"
359	Gibraltar	"
360	Straits Settlements	"
361	Sierra Leone	"
362	British Honduras	"
363	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
364	Seychelles	"
365	Bahamas	1901–1902
366	Fiji	1901
367	Ceylon	"
368	Barbados	1901–1902
369	Hong Kong	1901
370	Cocos Islands	1902
371	St. Helena	1901
372	British Solomon Islands	1901–1902
373	Jamaica	"
374	Leeward Islands	"
375	Gold Coast	1901
376	Grenada	"
377	Northern Nigeria	"
378	British Guiana	1901–1902
379	Mauritius	1901

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
20	Wei Hai Wei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.

No. 380.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1900-1901, *see* No. 343.)

HIGH COMMISSIONER VISCOUNT MILNER to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

High Commissioner's Office,
Johannesburg,
October 28th, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner, transmitting the Annual Reports upon Basutoland for the year ended 30th June, 1902.

I shall be glad if you will supply me with printed copies in due course.

I have, &c.,
MILNER,
High Commissioner.

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FROM THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, MASERU, TO HIGH COMMISSIONER, JOHANNESBURG.

Resident Commissioner's Office,

Basutoland,

30th September, 1902.

My Lord,

I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency my Report upon Basutoland for the year ended 30th June, 1902, together with the Annual Reports of the Government Secretary, the Assistant Commissioners, the Medical Officers, and the Veterinary Officer.

Basutoland is financially in a very prosperous condition. From the returns of revenue and expenditure, with comparative returns of preceding years given in Mr. Wroughton's report, it will be seen that the revenue from all sources during the past year has amounted to £104,284, while the expenditure has been £64,810. The balance to credit of the Administration has been, therefore, increased by £39,474, and now amounts to £75,380.

It has not been possible, in the recent condition of affairs in South Africa, to employ the surplus in public works of utility and other measures for the improvement of the country, but with the restoration of peace and renewed facilities for transport I hope before long to be able to submit some proposals for expenditure.

Two points of special interest in connection with the revenue have to be noticed, namely, the large amounts realised by the collection of hut-tax and by Customs' earnings.

Natural increase of the native population accounts to a certain extent for the increasing payment of hut-tax, in addition to which the abundance of cash in circulation has caused a large payment of arrear tax; this has been particularly the case among the people of Joel Molapo, who had, during the period of Joel's misbehaviour, neglected to complete the payment of their taxes. A number of native immigrants and refugees from the Orange River Colony, have also temporarily been settled in Basutoland, and have contributed to the revenue, but to what precise extent cannot be ascertained.

The revenue from Customs has exceeded expectations. The presence of many European refugees occasioned the import of an unusual quantity of dutiable goods, and the peace and security prevailing in Basutoland attracted trade. The high wages earned by Basuto labourers have also contributed to the volume of trade, by increasing the purchasing power of the people.

The trade in imported goods is almost entirely in articles of British manufacture—the principal exceptions being American agricultural implements and Belgian rugs.

There does not appear to be much prospect of further expansion of trade, either with regard to imports or exports. The trade depends upon the sale of native produce, and the wages earned by young men who go out to work and who prefer to bring back their earnings to spend in their own country. With respect to the agricultural industry, it is probable that the limit of production has been reached, and it is unlikely that higher prices for grain and stock will be obtained in the future than in the past. The quality of the produce, particularly with reference to horses, mohair, and wool, may be improved, and efforts in this direction are among the most interesting of future administrative plans.

Nor is it reasonable to expect that native labourers will be able to add to the wealth of the country by larger future earnings. The demand for labourers is great, but the wages offered are reduced. The labourer, however, if denied the opportunity for spending his earnings in drink, and if afforded facilities for remitting his money to his home, ought to continue to be a good customer to the Basutoland trader.

During the year, the Witwatersrand Labour Association established agencies in Basutoland, and made an attempt to organise a system of recruiting native labourers for the Johannesburg mines. The rate of pay offered failed, however, to attract the Basuto, who, at the same time, were being recruited by the various military departments, which were offering able-bodied labourers quite exceptionally high wages. The Association has for the present discontinued its operations in Basutoland, but I hope that when the Basuto natives have recovered from the unsettlement of the war, and the abnormally high wages they have been earning, a supply of labourers at reasonable rates will be procurable in Basutoland.

The country has, in common with other parts of South Africa, been visited by rinderpest. The disease has, during the present outbreak, appeared in a less acute and destructive form than in the year 1897, but, nevertheless, the losses have been heavy. Inoculation has been carried on with aid of Government in every part of the country, and the majority of the cattle have been

immunised. Rinderpest still exists in several localities, and probably some time will elapse before Basutoland may be considered free from the disease. The losses from pleuro-pneumonia have, perhaps, been even heavier than from rinderpest, and indeed, the necessary introduction of herds of cattle and horses for military purposes has been accompanied by the appearance of every variety of equine and bovine disease in South Africa. This is an unpleasant legacy of the war, and has occasioned much loss. The Basuto in most parts of the country have reaped good average crops, and have received good prices for their produce, and for the horses and cattle they have sold.

The great obstacle to the trade of the country has been, and is, the difficulty of obtaining regular transport to and from Aliwal North and Bloemfontein. Transport by ox and mule wagon has been at times almost unobtainable, and the restrictions on traffic, owing to the existence of rinderpest, have added to the difficulties of the situation. In parts of the country the cost of transport of goods from the coast has reached the rate of 40*s.* per 100 lbs., and the expense of living has been proportionately high. The ordinary cost of transporting a bag of grain (200 lbs.) from the border to the nearest railhead has been 10*s.* to 12*s.*, or, in other words, as great as would be the cost of carrying it 2,500 miles by railway. With the approach of the railway through Thaba 'Nchu, matters in this respect may be expected to improve, but the future prosperity of the country is dependent upon the extension of railways to the border, in place of the present costly, slow, and uncertain means of conveyance.

Such a change would be of equal advantage both to the producer and consumer of Basutoland grain.

The work of education has been steadily carried on by the mission societies, and returns furnished show that there are at present 197 schools, and 13,021 scholars receiving instruction. An inspection of a certain number of these schools by Canon Woodroofe showed a satisfactory state of efficiency and discipline.

There is no doubt that the time has arrived for the appointment of a trained education officer and inspector. It would be altogether fallacious to form an opinion of the state of education in the country from the mere number of scholars on the books. Inspection frequently reveals the fact that a very large proportion (sometimes amounting to 50 per cent.) of the children in the school registers are "below standard," that is, they have not qualified even under the first standard of the Cape Education Department. The average of regular attendance is also sometimes lower than could be wished, as is only to be expected among the children of peasants, whose parents require their services from time to time for herding, harvesting, and other agricultural work.

The work of secondary education is carried on in the Normal Colleges or training institutions. These higher schools undertake the very necessary duty of providing a supply of trained native teachers for the elementary schools, and are conducted with zeal and success by the directors of the missions. A number of young men are annually trained, many of whom subsequently follow careers of simple usefulness, as teachers of the children of their fellow countrymen. I propose to recommend an increase in education grants, which will enable the missions to offer additional encouragement and inducement to these native teachers, in the shape of some addition to their pay, which is at present not sufficient to attract many of the fully certificated men. I would not recommend the indiscriminate higher education of young natives, and would rather support some additional efforts in the direction of industrial training, or towards some increase in the numbers and efficiency of the elementary schools, which do not aim at more than the third (or at most the fourth) standard of the Cape Department.

The industrial school of the Paris Evangelical Mission Society receives a special grant, and has 39 scholars, of whom 22 are undergoing instruction in stone-masonry, 15 in carpentry, and 2 in smith's work. The work of the institution has, like every other form of business, been under great difficulties as to transport of material.

The medical officers have continued to do useful work at the dispensaries and Government hospitals. The fact that more than 15,000 natives have presented themselves for medical attendance indicates a confidence in our methods and treatment which is very satisfactory. There is reason to believe that the influence of the native doctors is being reduced in a corresponding degree.

The Paramount Chief and other chiefs have at times placed themselves in the hands of our medical officers.

The hospital at Mafeteng received during the year between 200 and 300 sick and wounded officers and soldiers from the columns operating on the border.

This considerably taxed the energy of our medical officer and the local resources as to accommodation and medical comforts, and I trust that the Military Authorities are satisfied with the work which has been done.

The amount of military work passing through Basutoland telegraph offices exceeded the powers of the telegraphists, and it was necessary to obtain from the Director of Military Telegraphs the services of several military operators. An extension of phonopore communication by wire to Butha Buthe Station has been carried out, and I propose during the coming year to extend the system to Peka Police Station.

Statistics of postal and telegraph work are embodied in the Government Secretary's report.

In August, 1901, Lerothodi and other chiefs visited Cape Town with me, and had the honour of being present at the visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales.

The postponed Coronation festivities were celebrated on 9th August with general rejoicings.

The past year has not been marked by the occurrence of many events of general interest with regard to the internal political condition of Basutoland. The Officers of the Administration have been, necessarily, occupied in dealing with the condition of affairs on the border arising from the continuance of the war. A very great deal of additional work, directly and indirectly connected with the military operations, has had to be done, and there has been little time or opportunity for attention to any but the most pressing questions of internal management. Every officer has been employed in the collection of military intelligence and in supervision of special arrangements for the preservation of order on our borders. The columns operating in the neighbourhood of Basutoland have drawn a considerable portion of their supplies from this territory, and have been furnished with horses, transport and slaughter cattle, native wagon drivers and leaders, and other native labourers to almost the full extent of the resources of the country. European and native refugees in large numbers have been forced over our border in the process of clearing the country on the other side, and the control of this addition to the population has called for the exercise of incessant activity and watchfulness. There have been many reports to the effect that the Boers in arms have been able to obtain supplies of clothing and other necessaries from Basutoland, through the medium of paid native emissaries, and as our own agents have in many instances intercepted individuals engaged in such traffic, it cannot be said that the rumours were totally without foundation; but such smuggling could only have been carried on to a very limited extent owing to the energetic preventive measures that were adopted. To deal effectually with this state of affairs it has been necessary in some instances to act in a somewhat arbitrary manner, and to enforce special regulations as to trade, which, no doubt, have occasioned inconvenience and loss to many law-abiding people.

There is only one instance on record of violation of the Basutoland border by armed Boers. In the extreme north of the Leribe District an attempt was made, by night, to loot horses from the stable of a European refugee, living close to the line. The marauders were fired on by police and others, but succeeded in escaping with two captured horses. It has been necessary to deal strictly with natives who, unable to resist the particular temptations offered by the situation, have crossed into the Orange River Colony, and have looted stock and goods from Boer camps

and farms. Any failure to check such a practice would have occasioned most deplorable disorder, and would have tended to the demoralisation of the Basuto, who have, as a rule, governed themselves with propriety in this respect.

In both the Northern and Southern extremities of Basutoland, bodies of armed Basuto have been called out, and placed on the borders, to oppose the anticipated movements of Boer Commandoes through those portions of the country. No attempt, however, at such movement was made by the enemy. The Chiefs responded, dutifully, to the call made upon them for the supply of men for this purpose.

During the war about 2,000 European refugees, mostly of Dutch extraction, have been afforded an asylum in Basutoland. Since the termination of hostilities almost all these people have returned to their homes in the neighbouring Colony, and it is only fair to place upon record that, during their stay, they behaved as a rule, in a remarkably quiet and orderly manner, and bore their hardships patiently. With few exceptions these people supported themselves.

The greatest difficulty in connection with the administration of Basutoland is in the adjustment of the inter-tribal quarrels, arising from disputes as to Chieftainship and land. There is no doubt that in the not very distant future, the land question in Basutoland, where the extent of arable land is limited, and has to serve for the needs of a constantly increasing population will present a somewhat serious economic difficulty. But in view of the ever increasing demand for labour in South Africa, and the prospect of employment for an almost indefinite number of natives in mines and other industries, the pressure of the population upon the land may be contemplated without any alarm.

The immediate difficulty is in the delimitation of the land rights of the different Chiefs by whom the land is allotted to the people, and in this exists a danger to the internal peace of the country. In other respects the Chiefs can, as a rule, be depended upon to exercise the authority they possess with wisdom and moderation, but in the matter of land rights they are jealous and uncompromising, and the adjustment of their disputes occupies much time and thought, which might be more profitably employed in other directions. The most troublesome land questions, at present, are in Leribe and Quthing Districts. In the Leribe District, amicable and reasonable settlement is rendered difficult by the jealousy existing between the Paramount Chief and Jonathan Molapo, the Chief of the District. Any arrangement which is satisfactory to one does not please the other, and the intrigues carried on by two such influential Chiefs are the main factors in perpetuating the unrest among the Leribe people.

The breach of the peace committed by Joel Molapo in 1899, and his attitude during the war, may be traced to the inter-tribal quarrels I have referred to, rather than to any strong feeling of attachment to the Boers. The trial of Joel has formed the subject of a special report, and it is sufficient to mention here that he practically pleaded guilty to charges of disloyal conduct and contempt of Court, and made only a feeble defence in the matter of his attack on his brother Hlasoa. I sentenced Joel to imprisonment for one year, and to a fine of 500 cattle, in lieu of which fine the sum of £2,000 has been accepted.

The imposition of collective punishment in the shape of fines has generally been taken advantage of by the chiefs, and I regret to say that Lerothodi used this opportunity to raise money by an appeal to his own followers for unnecessary contributions to "help Joel." The custom of mutual help, when in such difficulties, is quite in accordance with Basuto ideas. It is not regarded by the people as an injustice, and when not abused there is nothing particularly objectionable in it; but in this instance I have considered it right to call Lerothodi's attention to the impropriety of his conduct, with the result that he has handed to me the amount of £500 to be added to a sum of money which I hold in trust for the establishment of an industrial school.

The case of Joel involved a land question, as it was necessary to insist on the return of Hlasoa to the location from which he has been driven, and this, therefore, formed a portion of my judgment.

I proceeded with the representatives of the Paramount Chief to the spot to see the thing done. Hlasoa has re-occupied his fields and villages, but the want of unanimity between Lerothodi and Jonathan continues to cause uneasiness in Leribe District.

The trial of Mocheko has also taken place during the year. Mocheko's offence amounted, in a few words, to rebellion against the authority of the Paramount Chief, and resistance to his messengers. We have deprived Lerothodi of the power of taking extreme measures to vindicate his authority, and therefore it is a plain duty to support him in a constitutional and reasonable manner. Mocheko pleaded that his grandfather, Moroosi, had been a friend of Moshesh, but in no way his vassal, and that, therefore, he, Mocheko, was equally independent of the authority of Lerothodi. Historical evidence is against this, and it was clearly an inadmissible contention, and, in the interests of peace, Mocheko has been deprived of his control over the Baphuthi, in the Mohales Hoek District.

In the Quthing District there is always much friction between the native settlers, who were there before 1882, and the followers

of Nkwebe, who were placed there in that year, and who was subsequently formally recognized in 1884. At that time the district was but thinly peopled, and the headmen there had far more land than was necessary for their few followers. The population of the district has since been more than quadrupled by immigration from other portions of the country. and the process of locating the new comers is regarded as oppressive by the original petty chiefs. There is no doubt that, in some cases, the course adopted by Nkwebe has been somewhat unjust and vexatious, but the complainants could easily improve their positions by ceasing to question the rights of Nkwebe in the district.

I have indicated rather than described, all the numerous and incessant quarrels between the chiefs and petty chiefs throughout the country. It is much to their credit that their disputes so seldom culminate in brawls and bloodshed. They are always ready to talk cases, and by much discussion expend the energy that might find a more mischievous channel. Resort to the argument of physical force is, as a rule, the act of irresponsible and hot-headed youths.

In respect of the general social condition of the Basuto, it is undoubtedly the case that they have been materially prosperous. In matters of clothing, housing, and food, their standard of comfort is probably higher than it has ever been. Want and poverty have been practically unknown in the country.

In their moral condition it is not possible to record a similar improvement. They know more than they did twenty or even ten years ago, they have been brought into contact with the seamy side of civilisation in the larger towns, and have learned little that has tended to improve them. Cases of illegitimate birth and infanticide among the women appear to be on the increase.

The control of the liquor traffic under martial law in neighbouring territories has made it difficult for the Basuto to obtain brandy, but, nevertheless, there has been a certain amount of smuggling from East Griqualand and the north-eastern districts of the Cape Colony. I have observed, with great satisfaction, that a measure is about to be introduced into the Cape Parliament for the total prohibition of the sale of drink to natives.

The health of the Paramount Chief Lerothodi has been such as to cause considerable anxiety. He has a difficult part to play, but as a rule has loyally supported me in the necessary measures of government. He, in fact, has to control his people through a sort of aristocracy of minor chiefs, whose own influence depends on their connection by birth with the family of Moshesh. At times, when swayed by interested advisers who are able to play upon the feelings of jealousy which he entertains towards certain

other chiefs, Lerothodi lends himself to intrigues which accentuate the many existing differences between the sections of the tribe. But he is capable of taking a larger and more worthy view of his position and its duties, and, according to his lights, will often act for the good of his people in opposition to his own inclinations. Among the more influential chiefs whose conduct is generally satisfactory and whose counsel in national matters is valuable are Jonathan, Theko, Seiso, Moyela, and others.

During the year Lerothodi has again brought forward a request for the establishment of a National Council, as to which I have submitted proposals to your Excellency.

The administrative staff has undergone changes consequent upon the transfer of several experienced officers to the Native Affairs Department of the Transvaal. It is my duty to call attention to the general good services of the Government Secretary, the Assistant Commissioners, the police officers, the medical officers, and other members of the Service who have aided in the work of the year.

I have, &c.,

H. C. SLOLEY,

Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency

The Right Honourable

Viscount Milner, G.C.B., G.C.M.G.,

High Commissioner, South Africa.

ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARY, 1901–1902.

Government Secretary's Office,
Maseru,
30th September, 1902.

SIR,

IN transmitting the usual District Annual Reports for the year ending 30th June, 1902, I have the honour to submit the following summary of statistical information, gathered from these, and other sources.

FINANCIAL.

The Revenue of the country for the year under report was:—

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	60,755	10	0
Post Office	3,489	17	2
Licences	5,233	2	9
Fees	156	6	4
Miscellaneous receipts... ...	1,551	6	8
	71,186	2	11
Customs	33,097	18	5
Total ...	£104,284	1	4

The Expenditure during the same period amounted to £64,809 18*s.* 1*d.*

Beneath will be seen a table showing comparative Revenue and Expenditure for the last five years :—

Year ending.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
30th June, 1898	46,555	7	6	44,797	10	10
30th June, 1899	46,847	16	8	46,417	12	9
30th June, 1900	69,769	16	4	59,492	7	6
30th June, 1901	74,890	19	1	55,485	14	5
30th June, 1902	104,284	1	4	64,809	18	1

Hut-Tax during the year was paid on 56,916 huts, while £5,138 10*s.* 0*d.* was "arrear" Tax. Chief Joel Molapo, when intriguing with the Boers, did not pay his tax, but, on discovering his mistake during the past year, he paid up both arrear and current tax. This, conjoined to the general prosperity of the tribe, will largely account for the heavy increase under the head of "Hut-Tax."

During the past twelve months the usual contribution of £18,000 per annum from the Cape Government was discontinued for the first time, and in lieu of it Basutoland received the actual amount earned by it under the Customs Union, viz., £33,097. This amount, of course, is quite abnormal, and is caused by the peculiar circumstances of the year.

Trade and Agriculture.

Exports of produce :—

Articles.	Year ended 30th June, 1901.				Year ended 30th June, 1902.			
	Quantity.	Value.			Quantity.	Value.		
	Muids.	£	*s.*	*d.*	Muids.	£	*s.*	*d.*
Wheat	24,907	14,845	9	0	35,623	19,242	4	0
Mealies	49,916	29,104	14	0	85,445	46,621	9	6
Kaffir corn ...	3,949	2,502	6	0	8,494	6,751	16	0
Meal	702	867	2	0	3,434	4,156	5	0
Mealie meal ...	385	308	1	0	1,299	887	2	0
	Lbs.				Lbs.			
Wool ...	1,551,657	25,570	17	0	3,729,173	46,794	5	8
Mohair	196,355	7,655	3	0	406,853	10,691	10	8
	No.				No.			
Horses	15,684	262,991	15	9	656	9,049	15	0
Cattle	1,312	16,842	0	0	1,574	20,453	10	0
Miscellaneous ...	—	959	7	10	—	2,146	5	9
Total ...	—	361,646	15	7	—	166,894	3	7

It will be seen from the above return that, with the exception of "horses," the value of every description of produce exported shows a very considerable increase on last year.

I may mention that horses are not an important item of export in ordinary years, and the collapse referred to above simply means that "remounts" have ceased buying, and that this particular "produce" has returned to its normal figures.

As regards "imports" the total value of these amounts to £230,680.

I find on looking into the details that the principal values of "imports" may be put down as under :—

——	British.	Foreign.	Total.
	£	£	£
Apparel, slops, &c.	13,350	—	13,350
Cotton manufactures	47,110	15,000	62,110
Woollen "	57,590	—	57,590
Haberdashery	22,070	—	22,070
Provisions, oilman's stores, &c. ...	19,820	8,000	27,820
Other goods	45,740	2,000	47,740
	£205,680	25,000	230,680

I must, however, point out that with the material at my command I have not been able to obtain any exact proportions between British and foreign goods, and these figures must only be looked upon as approximate.

There are 125 licensed trading stations in the country, and 144 hawkers' licences were issued.

Passes were issued to 42,549 natives as under :—

Pass Return.

Object of Journey.	Number of Individuals.
To work at the Kimberley, Jagersfontein, and Cape coal mines.	2,427
Farm and domestic labour	3,920
Employed by Army	8,847
Other purposes	27,355
Total	42,549

No deductions can be drawn from these figures, as they are merely the result of the disorganised circumstances of the year.

Education.

In education, as in other things, an advance is shown. I give below comparative statements for 1900–1901 and 1901–1902 :—

Educational Return.

——	1900–1901.	1901–1902.
Schools	188	197
Scholars	11,356	13,021
Mean average attendance	7,841·6	9,057
Expenditure	£4,748 15*s.* 4*d.*	£5,212 13*s.* 10*d.*

Police and Judicial.

The strength of the Police Force is :—

European officers	12
European constables	8
Native officers	4
Native sergeants	6
Native corporals	10
Native privates	217
Native constables	3

They are all mounted, armed, and generally efficient.

The force did the following patrol work in the 12 months :—

Patrol Return.

Number of patrols	2,247
„ men on patrol	5,191
Estimated distance (in miles) patrolled	90,505
Arrests under Liquor Laws ...	32
„ „ Pass Law	675
Other offences	226

The following cases were heard in the Assistant Commissioners' Courts :—

Cases Return.

Culpable homicide	11
Theft	94
Pass Regulations	652
Trading Regulations	32
Resisting police	8
Assault	21
Other crimes	220

Gaol Return.

Prisoners received into gaol	434
„ convicted	361
„ discharged unconvicted ...	81
„ in gaol 30th June, 1902 ...	82

The following lost stock was reported from outside the territory :—

Lost Stock Return.

Stock.	Reported.	Traced to Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not re-covered.
Horses	95	34	61	25	70
Cattle	53	36	17	28	25
Sheep	1,871	81	1,790	76	1,795

POPULATION.

This may be taken as having slightly increased since the estimate of last year, which showed 262,561 natives and 647 whites. Nearly all the white refugees, and many of the refugee natives, have left Basutoland for their homes in the Orange River Colony, and have taken their cattle and stock with them.

POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH.

I have to thank the Postmaster-General, Cape Town, for very kindly furnishing me with the following figures for Basutoland during the year under report :—

Correspondence.

Letters posted in Basutoland	254,761
„ received in Basutoland	190,814

Money Orders.

	£	s.	d.
6,545 Money Orders were issued with total value of	22,505	10	7
1,363 Money Orders were paid with total value of	6,781	11	2

Savings Bank.

243 Deposits with total value of	3,646	17	0
52 Withdrawals with total value of ...	1,641	15	6

Telegraph.

The revenue from this source, collected in the territory, amounted to	1,626	11	0

In addition, however, to this, "paid" work was a very large quantity indeed of military and Government work from which no revenue was derived, but which will probably not have again to be dealt with in the present times of peace.

I have, &c.,

L. WROUGHTON,
Government Secretary.

ANNUAL REPORT—LERIBE DISTRICT, 1901-1902.

As in the two former years, the recent war has more or less monopolised all our energies and attention, and there is little to record that is not in some way connected with it. During the latter part of 1901 reports were frequent of supplies finding their way from Basutoland to the enemy's commando by means of native smugglers. Very stringent measures were adopted involving great hardship on the inhabitants and traders in the north of this district, and they seem to have had the desired effect.

In March last, at request of the military authorities, a force was mobilised for the defence of my northern border, owing to a report that a Boer force under General De Wet intended to break through Basutoland about that point, and make for Natal or Cape Colony. About five hundred men took the field at a day's notice under Sub-inspectors Mansel and Jenner, and remained out till the end of hostilities. The proposed invasion did not take place, possibly it was never intended—possibly this measure prevented it, but the force on the border was at any rate a great help in preventing irregularities and policing the border.

The attitude of the Chief Joel has all along made the policing of his border very difficult. At first he was defiant to us, and very friendly to the enemy. He has changed with the fortunes of the war, but up to the end he could never be depended upon to guard his border. He is now about to be tried for disloyalty, so it would not be proper to say more about him at present or attempt to anticipate the finding of the court.

In November last a disturbance occurred between the Chief Motsueni, and some of the Chief Jonathan's people about gardens, which led to fighting. The fighting was promptly stopped, and those who took part in it, punished, but the cause of the quarrel remains. The presence of Motsueni is one of the difficulties of this district. He is of higher rank than Jonathan, and, therefore, refuses to respect him. He is always crying for a position suitable to his rank, which owing to his personal character it is impossible to give him. It will, I think, be necessary now that we have time to devote ourselves to our own affairs, to take this matter in hand, and see if some solution of the difficulty cannot be arrived at.

Throughout the year, as in previous years, there have been brawls between the young chief Mitchell and his uncle chief Seshophe. Last April guns were used and two men wounded; Seshophe's son and four men were sentenced to imprisonment,

and others fined by the Resident Commissioner. A settlement of the border between these chiefs was arrived at, which we have every reason to hope may be final.

During the year the attitude of the chief Jonathan and other chiefs, except Joel, has been satisfactory.

Rinderpest is still prevalent in the district, but not in a very virulent form. Lung sickness and other cattle diseases are also present. Horses, too, are suffering in various ways, but chiefly from a kind of mange—a disease quite new to us in Basutoland. It yields to treatment if taken in time, but if it is neglected the animal generally dies. These diseases are to be expected in view of the crowding together of captured stock from all parts of the country, and may be expected to disappear in the quieter times now before us.

The natives, generally, have done very well by the war. The enormous amount of very congenial labour at high wages has brought money into the country, and the remounts have disposed of an enormous quantity of cattle, four and five head, in value £28 or £35, being paid for ponies.

The following is a return of revenue. The figures include those furnished by the officer in charge of Butha Buthe. The hut tax shows a large increase due to:—

(*a*) Natural increase.
(*b*) Joel's tax and arrears for last year, which were paid during the present year.
(*c*) Large influx of native refugees from the Orange River Colony.

The following are the usual annual returns:—

REVENUE.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut Tax	16,869	10	0
Judicial fines	974	3	6
Licences	446	0	0
Fees	34	16	0
Miscellaneous	45	5	6
Total	£18,369	15	0

Amount of arrear tax paid was £3,208 10*s.* 0*d.*

Number of huts on which tax was paid was 14,376.

LICENCES.

General traders	42
Hawkers licences	26
„ „ (free)	Nil

Passes.

For military and Imperial services ...	3,876
„ other purposes	5,949

Return of Patrols.

Number of patrols	580
„ men employed	1,739
„ miles patrolled	29,560

Number of Arrests.

Contravening Liquor Regulations	1
„ Pass „	489
Other offences	147

The following is a return of cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Theft	37
Assault	14
Forgery	1
Culpable homicide	3
Concealment of birth	1
Sodomy	1
Rape	2
Attempted rape	1
Breach of the peace	8
Resisting the police	7
Contravening Liquor Regulations	1
„ Trade „	3
Burglary	1
Other offences in connection with border regulations	252
Contempt of court	2
Civil actions	13

Return of Lost or Stolen Stock.

Description.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	16	2	7	11
Cattle	10	1	2	9
Sheep and goats	61	—	56	5
Total	87	3	65	25

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol ...	211
Convicted and sentenced	185
Discharged unconvicted	14
In gaol on 30th June, 1902	24

No floggings were inflicted during the year.

Prices of Stock and Produce.

Horses...	£20 to £25 (scarce).
Cattle	— "
Sheep	20*s.* each.
Goats	10*s.* "
Wool	3½*d.* per lb.
Mohair	9*d.* "
Mealies	9*s.* 6*d.* per muid.
Wheat...	8*s.* 6*d.* "
Kaffir corn	10*s.* "
Oat hay	20*s.* to 40*s.* per 100.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-inspectors	3
European constable	1
Native officer	1
" sergeant	1
" corporals	3
1st class privates	10
2nd "	42

In addition to the above I have had until 30th June, 1902 :—

Special constable	1
" police	28

I attach the report of the officer in charge of the Butha Buthe Ward, and that of the Medical Officer, Leribe.

J. C. Macgregor,

Assistant Commissioner.

Leribe,

8th July, 1902.

ANNUAL REPORT.—MAFETENG DISTRICT, 1901-1902.

The political conditions of Mafeteng District during the past twelve months differed very little from those of the previous year. Military operations continued on and near the Basutoland border, and several fights and skirmishes took place between the various columns and Boers. Columns in clearing adjacent districts in the Orange River Colony sent hundreds of Boer families to Mafeteng. The majority of these people were destitute women and children, and we furnished such persons with shelter and food, forwarding the destitute to refugee camps when transport was available.

Those who remained were a self-supporting community, and they dispersed through the district and lived where they could find shelter for themselves and grazing for their stock. Some 200 families of this latter class were registered at the Assistant Commissioner's office. The heads were principally commercial men and farmers, and they all held military permits and protection certificates for their stock. Since peace was declared most of these people have returned to their homes in the Orange River Colony. It is worthy of note that these refugees lived for a considerable period in scattered communities in Basuto villages, and that they had no complaints of bad treatment by the natives, neither had the natives any serious grievances against them. The refugees were law abiding, and conformed to all Government regulations and restrictions while they were here.

Columns operating near the border drew considerable food supplies from shops in this district, and military convoys passed frequently to and fro.

During the summer months the accommodation in the special military hospital at this station was inadequate owing to the great number of sick and wounded officers and men from the various columns, so No. 16 Field Hospital came here, and the patients, mostly suffering from enteric, received every attention.

Several parties of military prisoners released by the Boers on the border, were received, cared for and forwarded to their depôts, also some men who effected their own escape.

On requisition of commanding officers, columns were supplied with all necessary native labour and guides.

Intelligence work was carried on systematically by district officers whose staff of native scouts, operating from the border, worked in the Orange River Colony and watched Boer movements. Army signallers were stationed on prominent hills in the district and by this means communication was often kept open between columns and the Mafeteng telegraph office.

The Basutoland border was carefully patrolled and watched by Basuto police and Intelligence agents and every endeavour was made to check individuals of the vast native population from looting in the Orange River Colony or holding communication with Boers in the field. The military have from time to time alleged that Boers drew considerable supplies from Basutoland. Considering our strict border system and the fact that every native headman acts as a Government agent or policeman, it is not possible that any large quantity of supplies could have gone over the border to the enemy without the matter coming to the knowledge of the district officers. Natives who were in communication with the Boers and who did supply them with a few pairs of boots, some clothing and groceries to the value of about £10 were detected, arrested, and punished.

Stock grazing near the border of the Orange River Colony during these unsettled times was a temptation which some Basuto could not resist and several have been prosecuted and convicted for theft and nearly all the stolen stock was recovered and returned to owners living on protected farms in Ladybrand district, Orange River Colony.

With these few exceptions the attitude of the Chiefs and people has been most loyal and exemplary, and I have received ready and willing assistance from the Chiefs in dealing with district matters.

The successful termination of the war is hailed with feelings of satisfaction and relief by all classes of Europeans and natives in this district.

Preparations were made to celebrate the coronation of His Majesty the King in a fitting manner. The great gathering of people assembled at this magistracy, to participate in the coronation festivities, received the news relative to His Majesty's present illness with expressions of regret and loyalty, and then they dispersed to their homes.

~~In May, 1901, diseased cattle from the Orange River Colony~~ introduced rinderpest into this district, and it became necessary to inoculate cattle. Inoculators were employed by Government, bile stations established, and inoculation was carried on according to Dr. Koch's method. The disease was not so virulent as that which affected cattle in 1897, but still it was severe, and cattle owners sustained heavy loss. Upwards of 40,000 cattle were inoculated in Mafeteng district.

During the summer months swarms of locusts did some damage to crops.

The main roads were generally in a fair state of repair, but sometimes in rainy weather they were cut to pieces by the abnormal waggon traffic to and from the Cape Colony.

The water supply at this station is insufficient for the requirements of the inhabitants. A diamond drill is at work in the village, and it is hoped that by this means a good water supply will be secured.

Education and religious work is carried on energetically by the clergy of the various missions. I have furnished a report on 19 Government-aided schools inspected recently in the district.

Police.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-inspector	1
European constable	1
Native officer	1
„ sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ privates	32
„ constable	1

Eight special police were discharged on 30th June, 1902.

The police detachment rendered excellent, and in many instances special, services.

They are a smart body of men, well mounted, equipped, and disciplined. They supply their own horses.

Return of Patrols.

Number of patrols	370
Number of men employed	801
Number of miles patrolled	9,565
Number of arrests	44

Return of Lost or Stolen Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses ...	9	7	2	7	2
Cattle ...	26	26	—	26	—
Sheep ...	—	—	—	—	—

Cases Tried.

The following is a return of cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Civil actions	—
Theft	21
Liquor	—
Homicide	4
Other crimes	14

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	... ...	33
„ „ discharged unconvicted	...	—
„ „ convicted and sentenced	...	33
„ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1902	...	19

No floggings were inflicted.

Commercial.

Traders have been much hampered in their business owing to ordinary trade routes being closed during the war, and this caused them to be overstocked with wheat which they could not sell.

Goods were principally imported from Aliwal North *viâ* Herschel district, Cape Colony, and from Bloemfontein, Orange River Colony.

These were the only routes open, and rinderpest regulations in Cape Colony increased the difficulties of transport, and the rate of carriage was very high. Notwithstanding these difficulties business has been brisk, as the natives are well supplied with money, the fruits of their labour in various branches of Imperial service, and the sale of ponies, stock, and produce at the present good prices. Considerable supplies were purchased from local traders by the military.

The harvest was good, and large crops of wheat, mealies, kaffir corn and oat hay have been reaped.

Agricultural development was stimulated by an Agricultural Show held at this magistracy, which was supported by a Government grant and local subscriptions. The Show was quite a success, and well appreciated by the Basuto, and it is intended to hold one annually.

Prices of Stock and Produce.

Wheat, per sack	12*s.* 6*d.*
Mealies	12*s.*
Kaffir corn	15*s.*
Barley	12*s.*
Oats	12*s.*
Oat hay, per 100 bundles ...	25*s.*
Slaughter cattle, each	15*l.*
Basuto ponies „	12*l.* to 15*l.*
Sheep „	12*s.* 6*d.*
Goats „	10*s.*
Wool, per lb.	3*d.*
Mohair	6*d.*

Licences.

General traders	24
Paid hawkers	6
Free „	1

Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	8,912	0	0
Licences	246	0	0
Fines	123	10	0
Miscellaneous	85	19	4
Fees	15	8	6
Total ...	£9,282	17	10

Amount of arrear tax paid was £167.

Number of huts on which tax was paid was 8,745.

Tax was very well paid by the people, and the chiefs assisted greatly in the collection. One new shop licence was granted during the year.

Summary of Passes Issued.

Passes for the mines, Johannesburg ...	—
„ „ „ „ Kimberley ...	27
„ „ „ „ Jagersfontein ...	—
„ „ „ coal mines, Cape Colony	—
„ „ farm and domestic service	—
„ „ other purposes	3,368

In addition to the above, large gangs of natives were sent to Imperial railway, and other branches of military service.

T. P. Kennan,

Assistant Commissioner.

Mafeteng,

30th June, 1902.

ANNUAL REPORT—MASERU DISTRICT, 1901-1902.

Little or nothing of political interest has occurred in this district during the past year, peace has been maintained, and the inhabitants have carried on their usual pursuits without interruption.

The excitement caused by the war subsided, and the restoration of peace has anxiously been looked for.

A great number of natives who were living in the Orange River Colony were turned out and took refuge in this district, bringing with them many cattle, and considerably increasing the overstocked condition of the ward, and causing a high rate of mortality among all stock through poverty.

Rinderpest has slowly smouldered on, mainly due to cattle in many parts being attacked two or three times over, but also due to the fact that owners here and there refused to have their cattle inoculated, which of course were subsequently attacked.

The hut tax was promptly paid, and shows a considerable increase, which to an extent is due to tax having been paid by the native refugees.

The crops are good and the return promises well.

The increased traffic on the roads, and the abnormal rainfall, put them into a deplorable state, and it has been a strain to keep them passable.

The supply of remounts for the army greatly decreased, the district having been drained during the past two years.

A branch of the Standard Bank was opened here last July, and has proved a great boon to the community.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

LICENCES.

General Licences	28
Hawkers	6

Commercial.

Trade has been good. The following are current prices of Basutoland produce :—

Cattle	£10 to £18
Horses	£10 to £30
Sheep	10*s.* to 28*s.*
Goats	10*s.* to 25*s.*
Wheat	10*s.* to 12*s.* per bag.
Mealies	12*s.* to 13*s.* „
Kaffir corn	15*s.* to 20*s.* „
Meal	1½*d.* to 4*d.* per lb.
Mohair	6*d.* to 10*d.* „

Police.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-inspector	1
European constables	3
Native constables	2
„ sergeant	1
„ corporals	2
„ privates	57

Return of Patrols.

Number of patrols	253
„ men employed	540
„ miles patrolled	4,125
Arrests for contravening Pass Laws ...	10
„ other offences	12

Return of Lost or Stolen Stock.

No stock was reported as lost from the neighbouring territory during the year.

The following is a return of cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Theft	3
Contravening Pass Regulations	4
„ Police Offences Act ...	2
Culpable homicide	2
Concealment of birth	1
Assault	1
Civil cases	10

Return of Passes.

For Kimberley	1,254
„ domestic service	146
„ military purposes	300
„ other „	2,946

Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	10,453	10	0
Licences	324	0	0
Fines	33	2	6
Ferry tolls	884	3	0
Fees	11	4	0
Miscellaneous receipts ...	129	16	6
	£11,835	16	0

Amount of arrear tax paid was £650 10*s*.

Number of huts on which tax was paid was 9,987.

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol... ...	35
„ „ convicted and sentenced ...	14
„ „ discharged unconvicted ...	29
„ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1902	15

No floggings were inflicted during year.

C. Griffith,

Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT.—MOHALE'S HOEK DISTRICT, 1901-1902.

Since the last annual report upon this district, matters have undergone but little change, the late war has occupied public attention to such an extent that the usual tribal squabbles and minor matters did not receive the customary attention. Owing to suspicions raised by the military that the Boers were being supplied with food from Basutoland, all traders and Chiefs in the district were warned against this danger, also each refugee was required to keep a book in which all purchases had to be entered by traders, who were further warned not to supply more than limited quantities of actual necessaries; personally, I did not in the least suspect or believe that the enemy got food from this district. A few of them who lived practically along the border and had native friends in Basutoland, may have occasionally obtained articles such as coffee and sugar to a very limited extent, as owing to the vigilance of the border guard no large quantities could have been smuggled through.

To further prevent the possibility of Boers being supplied by their friends in Basutoland, all refugees were ordered five miles back, and additional guards were placed on the border to strengthen the patrols.

The wheat also that had been put into Basutoland for safety was ordered to be removed from the vicinity of the border.

In August rinderpest again made its appearance in Basutoland; it did not attack cattle in this district until December. Inoculation was at once vigorously proceeded with, five Government inoculators being employed for the purpose.

In September Mocheko sent in a list of complaints that he had hatched by aid of his followers against Griffith-Lerothodi, the lawful chief of the ward. A trusty messenger "Lepolisa" was sent to investigate these complaints and report, when it was found that the complaints were mostly imaginary, and that Mocheko was instigating his people to defy Griffith. The latter was advised to be patient with the Baphuti, and promised that the whole matter would be attended to and adjusted in due time. It is creditable to Griffith that he acted upon this advice in the face of frequent insults.

During the month I had to undergo an operation which necessitated the appointment of Sub-Inspector Cooke as acting Assistant Commissioner for the District. I did not resume duty until the end of November. Mr. Cooke kept matters well in hand, and nothing of very great importance transpired.

A good many Boers were at this time roaming aimlessly about Zastron and district. They were kept closely watched by a system of scouting organized for the purpose, and their every movement watched and reported to head quarters at Maseru.

In December five Boers surrendered to the border guard at Morifi, and were subsequently sent to Jammersburg Drift and handed over to the military.

In January the district sustained a serious loss in the death of Chief Mohapi Letsie; he occupied the position of native officer and was a most trustworthy man and very reliable; he will be hard to replace.

Nkau, a son of Lerothodi has been nominated as Mohape's successor, but his appointment has yet to be confirmed by the Resident Commissioner.

Owing to the greater portion of Basutoland transport having to pass through this district, and the great detour *viâ* Seaka and Alwyn's Kop, it was decided to repair Pathlala Drift, which had been allowed to lapse for want of use. £130 was allowed for this purpose; the road has not been as useful as was anticipated, owing to the outbreak of rinderpest which stopped all ports, but Telle Drift. Travellers on horseback and carts have found the short cut useful.

In February the Baphuti Chief Motsuanakaba died. His death is much to be regretted as he had very sensibly acknowledged the chieftainship of Griffith, thereby greatly facilitating the collection of hut tax and other political matters in that part of the district. His death was caused by small-pox, and he has been succeeded by his son Moso.

All villages round Motsuanakaba's place were vaccinated by a qualified man from this office and the area quarantined, by which means the disease was stamped out.

In April Mocheko was tried at Maseru by the Resident Commissioner, a large and representative gathering being present, including the Paramount Chief, and most of the principal chiefs of the country. Mocheko's persistent misconduct and consequent danger to the peace of the country was so clearly shown, that the court ruled that he be deposed, and not allowed to return to the district (Mohales Hoek). A pass was given him by the Resident Commissioner to proceed to the Colony as an ordinary individual.

In May six Baphuti headmen, who had ignored the summons of Lerothodi and Griffith, were called to this office to stand their trial for contempt of court. The case was ordered for the 12th June, at which period, however, the district was visited by the severest fall of snow that can be remembered. The case had to be postponed, the Baphuti not been able to attend by reason of the depth of snow in the mountains.

Much damage has been done owing to the severity of the weather during the snow week, a large loss in stock has been the result. The thermometer registered 23 degrees of frost on the night of June 11th.

On the 30th June and 1st July the Baphuti headmen were tried in my court. They were found guilty of contempt of court and sentenced to terms of imprisonment from three to six months. I did not consider that fines would meet the case, as they would have been paid by the people, and the desired effect thus frustrated.

On the 25th June a fairly successful Agricultural Show was held, horses and cattle being creditably represented. The snow storm rendered the exhibition much smaller than would otherwise have been the case. On the whole, and considering the time of year, I was satisfied, and am convinced that these shows rank amongst the best of our efforts for improvement.

The Coronation festivities were well over before the news of the lamented illness of H.M. the King reached this office.

The health of the district is good. In the absence of the Medical Officer I am unable to attach the usual report.

As will be seen by the following returns the revenue of the district is considerably in excess of last year, due to the heavy increase of the hut tax.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	9,384	0	0
Licences	151	0	0
Fines	143	7	6
Fees	9	14	0
Miscellaneous	228	16	9
Total	£9,916	18	3

Amount of arrear tax paid was £422.

Number of huts on which tax was paid was 9,264.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-inspector	1
European constable	1
Native sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ privates	24
Special police (disbanded)	

The police are well mounted and equipped.

Return of Patrols.

Number of patrols	38
„ men employed	141
„ miles patrolled	17,363
Arrests for contravening pass regulations	82
Arrests for contravening liquor regulations	4
Miscellaneous	21

Licences.

General traders	15
Paid hawkers	1

Return of Lost or Stolen Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	1	—	1	—	1
Cattle	7	—	7	—	7
Sheep, &c. ...	6	6	—	6	—

Return of Passes.

Kimberley	1,059
Johannesburg	77
Jagersfontein	—
Cape Colony	—
Farm and domestic service	1,932
Other purposes	3,632

The following is a return of cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Murder	1
Liquor Law	2
Theft	9
Pass and Border Regulations	54
Forgery	1
Miscellaneous	24
Civil cases	—

No floggings were inflicted.

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners		received into gaol ...	65
,,	,,	sentenced	55
,,	,,	discharged unconvicted	29
,,	,,	removed to other gaols	6
,,	,,	in gaol on 30th June, 1902	5

Prices of Stock and Produce.

Horses	£12 to £50
Cattle	£8 to £16
Sheep, &c.	10*s.* to 20*s.*
Mealies	12*s.* per bag.
Kaffir corn	12*s.* ,,
Wheat	15*s.* ,,

In consequence of the high prices obtained for stock of all kinds, and the ready sale for all produce, there is plenty of money in the district.

Trade has been good, but much hampered, caused by the difficulty in transport, all of which, or nearly so, has had to pass through this district. The Orange River Colony border being closed, the roads have suffered in proportion. They are now being put in order and are much improved.

Sickness among cattle has been abnormal. This is not surprising when one considers the quantity captured from all parts of the Orange River Colony and Transvaal that has been sent into, and passed through, this district.

J. W. Bowker,
Assistant Commissioner.

Mohale's Hoek,
30th June, 1902.

ANNUAL REPORT—BUTHA BUTHE DISTRICT, 1901–1902.

I took charge of the Ward on the 4th of October, 1901. The most important matter which occupied my attention was the alleged disloyalty of Chief Joel Molapo.

When I arrived at Butha Buthe Joel was just proceeding to the Paramount Chief Lerothodi, on the summons of the latter. From thence he went to Maseru, where he had an interview with the Resident Commissioner.

There is no doubt that the result of these interviews was a complete change of policy on the part of Joel.

On his return home he visited me, and promised to obey all my orders and to assist me, to the best of his ability, in dealing with his ward, and I am bound to say that in all ordinary district matters, such as collecting hut tax, arresting criminals, &c., he has since I have been here, behaved well. He has also made a great parade of arresting persons who contravened the Border regulations by crossing from his ward to the Orange River Colony, but these were generally very minor cases, such as women and children pilfering fuel or fruit from the other side.

It was well known, however, that a number of Joel's people were assisting the enemy as servants, and in many cases as armed combatants. There was reason to believe that all or some of these men were in the habit of passing backwards and forwards between the Boer Commandoes and their homes in Joel's ward for the purpose of visiting their families and friends. I constantly advised Joel to have such persons arrested, but in no instance did he do so on his own initiative.

Joel has lately shown signs of great anxiety as to how he will be dealt with on account of his disloyalty, and I am of opinion that he would gladly have handed up these rebels, but that he was afraid to do so on account of having seriously compromised himself with them during the earlier stages of the war.

Numerous reports, from time to time, were received from the Military Intelligence Department to the effect that the enemy were obtaining considerable supplies from Joel's ward. Generally speaking these reports appeared to have been based on the vaguest rumours. Very special measures were, however, taken to prevent anything of the kind occurring. No goods were allowed to be removed further north than Hlotse Heights, and no person in this ward was allowed to purchase without a written permit from my office. These restrictions caused great loss to the traders and much inconvenience to the general public. They were, however, borne with conspicuous loyalty by nearly every one concerned.

When I first came to Butha Buthe I had considerable trouble with Chief Letsika. He completely failed to realise his responsibilities to Government, especially in the matter of sending in persons who were required as witnesses or to answer criminal charges. After warning him several times, without effect, I found it necessary to make a special report of his misconduct. As a result he was tried by the Assistant Commissioner, Leribe, representatives of the Paramount Chief being present, and fined fifty pounds. Since then I have had no cause of complaint against him.

Numbers of natives from this ward found lucrative employment, as non-combatants, with His Majesty's troops during the war. Also large quantities of horses were sold by the natives in this ward for Imperial remount purposes. These facts have resulted in bringing a deal of money into the ward. Further, last season was a capital one for crops, and it may be safely said the population is in an exceptionally prosperous condition.

Natives who have served in the campaign as non-combatants have returned to their homes with glowing stories of the courage and tenacity of His Majesty's troops, and the might of the Empire has been impressed on their minds in a very practical manner.

Since I have been here there have been several drunken brawls and disturbances between natives. They were, however, generally of minor importance, and require no special report.

The statistics of the ward have been embodied in the report of the Assistant Commissioner, Leribe.

W. MANSEL,
Sub-inspector, B.M.P.,
Officer in Charge.

ANNUAL REPORT.—QUTHING DISTRICT, 1901-1902.

Among the incidents of the year in this district the most prominent appears to have been the armed demonstration which it was found necessary to make in the direction of the Barkly East border, to prevent the rebel Boers in that quarter from making use of the Drakensberg Passes in that corner of Basutoland, as a route through which to invade East Griqualand.

For some time rumours of such intention on their part had been current; and in September, 1901, in consequence of representations from the officer commanding the forces in East Griqualand, a small force of native scouts was stationed to watch the passes between Rhodes and Ongeluk's Nek; this force being increased in November, 1901, to about 500 men, in charge of an officer and some native chiefs. This force was disbanded in February and March, 1902, after having rendered useful service during a rather critical time.

The oppression of the original population of the district by the Basuto, referred to in my last year's Report, has continued intermittently during the period under review; several instances having been, from time to time, reported to headquarters. Two chiefs, viz., Moeletsi, of the Baphuti tribe, and Stock Tyali, of the Ba Tembu tribe, have applied for permission to remove from Basutoland in consequence of their dissatisfaction at the manner in which their rights are interfered with As Quthing district was originally occupied by these tribes, and the Basuto are comparatively new comers, it is unfortunate that the latter cannot settle in the country without driving the others to leave it. Moreover, the departure of these clans, if permitted, involves the problem for His Majesty's Government of finding locations for them elsewhere.

Relations with bordering territories continue generally of a satisfactory nature. It is, however, to be wished that more stringent measures might be adopted in those territories, for prevention of the sale of intoxicating liquors to Basutoland natives.

Lung sickness was prevalent among cattle during the winter months; and this was followed in September, 1901, by an outbreak of rinderpest. This was stamped out by means of timely inoculation; and no cases have been reported since the beginning of April. The total loss from this disease in the district was not over 200 head; and this satisfactory result appears to be largely due to the skilful manipulation of the inoculators, Messrs. Lautré

and Swanepoel; who both had great experience in the work under the Government of the late Orange Free State during the outbreak of rinderpest in 1897.

Many of the horses purchased from the Remount Department in 1901 have since died; some from strangles and influenza; and many from a virulent form of mange which appears to be highly infectious.

An Agricultural Show was held here in May, which passed off well The show of horses in various classes was creditable, considering how the country has been drained of these animals for military purposes. A pleasing feature of the show was a group of yearling colts and foals, sired by the stud-horse at Moyeni camp, all showing good quality and substance, and mostly in excellent condition; showing that the natives are at last beginning to pay more attention to breeding, and to caring for their young stock.

A new pont for the Orange River was constructed in the course of the year, and is working satisfactorily.

The public roads are at present in a deplorable condition owing to a heavy fall of snow on the 11th inst. Difficulty has been experienced throughout the year in keeping them in more than a barely passable state.

The waterworks at Moyeni camp have maintained their supply during the year.

A commencement has recently been made, on lines suggested by Mr. Willcocks in his Report on Irrigation in South Africa, to experiment with some of the local sluits, dongas, or gullies, with a view to causing them to gradually silt up by means of barriers and obstructions, placed at intervals across their course. Sufficient time has not elapsed to thoroughly test this work; but there is no doubt from what has been done here in former years by planting American aloes and poplars, in similar situations, that the growth of such gullies can be checked.

The following are the usual annual returns:—

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	5,442	0	0
Licences	151	1	0
Fines	303	7	6
Ferry tolls	420	2	9
Fees of court or office... ...	3	0	0
Miscellaneous receipts... ...	148	19	0
Total	£6,467	10	3

Amount of arrear tax paid was £84.

Number of huts on which tax was paid was 5,390.

Licences.

General traders' licences	14
Paid hawkers' „	22
Free „	2

Passes.

Passes for farm and domestic service	787
„ other purposes	1,758

Police.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-inspector	1
European constable	1
Native sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ privates	23
Special police	9

Return of Patrols.

Number of patrols	65
Number of men employed	214
Number of miles patrolled	11,270
Arrests for contravening Pass Regulations.	61
Arrests for contravening Liquor Regulations.	16
Arrests for other offences	5

Cases Tried.

The following is a return of cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Assault and seizure of property	1
Forgery and personation	1
Illegal impounding of stock	2
Contravening C. 5, paragraph 88, Act 27, 1882.	1
Theft	9
Concealment of birth	2

Contravening Pass Regulations	61
Contravening Section VII....	8
Evading arrest	4
Escaping from custody	1
Breach of prison discipline	2
Damaging Government property	2
Breach of the peace and assault	2
Contravening Trading Regulations ...	5
Contravening Section XIX., Basutoland Regulations.	2
Contravening Customs Regulations ...	1
Conspiring to evade Pass and Vaccination Regulations.	4
Assault with intent to commit rape ...	1
Rape	4
Concealing evidence	1
Contravening Liquor Regulations	1
Assaulting police	1

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	43
„ „ „ convicted and sentenced ...	43
„ „ „ discharged unconvicted ...	—
„ „ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1902 ...	12

Flogging inflicted during year :—

Ndaberi ... ... 25 lashes.

Prices of Stock and Produce.

Horses	£10 to £20.
Oxen	£10 to £15.
Cows	£5 to £10.
Sheep	10*s.* to 20*s.*
Goats	10*s.* to 15*s.*
Wool	3*d.* per lb.
Mohair	6*d.* „
Wheat...	16*s.* per bag.
Mealies	14*s.* „
Kaffir corn	20*s.* „

RETURN OF LOST OR STOLEN STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	10	4	6	4	6
Cattle	7	—	7	—	7
Sheep	1,781	—	1,781	—	1,781
Donkeys ...	50	—	50	—	50

NOMINAL LIST OF TRADERS.

J. Hallifax	... ...	Morosi's Mountain.
J. C. Stewart	... ...	Madibe.
C. E. Wright	... ...	Qomogomong.
C. E. Wright	... ...	Moyeni.
F. S. Casey	... ...	Tapisi.
T. & E. Dodd	... ...	Dilli Dilli.
A. E. Kyffin	... ...	Fort Hartley.
A. E. Kyffin	... ...	Quthing Camp.
T. Gallon	... ...	Alwyn's Kop.
T. Gallon	... ...	Masitisi.
T. Gallon	... ...	Sebapala.
T. Gallon	... ...	Songondo.
G. Hallifax	... ...	Moyeni.
G. Hallifax	... ...	Mosetlas.

SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS.

Nil.

S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

Quthing,
30th June, 1902.

ANNUAL REPORT—BEREA DISTRICT, 1901-1902.

I took over charge of the district on December 19th, 1901. During the year there has been no serious disturbance in the district. There have been the usual quarrels about land and boundaries, some of which have, I hope, been settled, and one or two are still awaiting settlement. There has been little serious crime during the year.

I am glad to say that, during the short time I have been in charge of the district, Mamathe has given satisfaction in the way in which she carried out her duties as chief.

The hut tax was paid well and quickly, and amounted to some £500 more than in any previous year.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	6,545	0	0
Licences...	224	0	0
Fines	105	10	0
Fees	5	1	6
Total ...	£6,879	11	6

Amount of arrear tax paid was £510.

Number of huts on which tax was paid was 6,059.

Licences.

Paid hawkers' licences	2
Mill licence	1

Passes.

Passes for farm and domestic service...	63
„ other purposes	910

Police.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

European constable	1
Native sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ privates	26
Special police (discharged)	

Return of Patrols.

Number of patrols	761
„ men employed	1,522
„ miles patrolled	12,059
Arrests for contravening pass regulations	19
Arrests for contravening liquor regulations...	1

Cases Tried.

The following is a return of cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Theft	12
Contravening liquor regulations ...	1
„ pass „ ...	13
Culpable homicide	1
Assault	1
Other offences	1
Civil cases	4

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	24
„ „ convicted and sentenced	20
Number of prisoners discharged unconvicted	4
Number of prisoners in gaol on 30th June, 1902	3

No floggings were inflicted.

Prices of Stock and Produce.

Horses	£15 to £20
Oxen	£14 to £15
Cows	£12 to £13
Sheep	20*s.* to 30*s.*
Goats	10*s.* to 15*s.*
Fine grease wool	2½*d.* per lb.
Coarse „	1½*d.* „
Mohair	6*d.* „
Wheat	13*s.* to 15*s.*
Mealies	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Kaffir corn	10*s.* to 12*s.*

Return of lost or Stolen Stock.

No stock were reported lost at this office.

Nominal List of Traders.

J. Bradshaw	Mohatlane.
„	Matekas.
Johnson & Co.	Marthinus.
G. L. Stevens	Teyateyaneng.
„	Makoali.
„	Nt'lamas.
„	Sebalabala.
„	Cana.
„	Phofoolos.
C. Stevens	Teyateyaneng.
J. S. Yeats	Senekals.
Maitin Bros.	Berea Hills.
„	Hangers Drift.
„	Teyateyaneng.
W. R. Dawson	Mapoteng (1)
„	„ (2)
„	Hamoletsane.
„	Makates.
J. M. Bodkin	Sefeking.
D. and D. H. Fraser ...	Mabekenyane.
„	Fakos.
„	Khamolane,

W. Boxwell,

Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Berea,

8th July, 1902.

ANNUAL REPORT—QACHA'S NEK DISTRICT, 1901-1902.

The District has been peaceful for the past year. A good deal of excitement arose when it was freely reported that Boer Commandoes were approaching our Border, but owing to the vigilance displayed by the numerous flying columns they were driven back.

It has been necessary to call on some of the Chiefs to station men temporarily at the principal passes leading into Natal. My orders were promptly and satisfactorily performed.

There have been a fair number of stock thefts committed by natives of East Griqualand. Whenever traced, the Magistrates have rendered me the necessary assistance.

The Cape Government have not reopened their border to cattle from this country, although lung sickness has died out many months ago, and rinderpest has not broken out anywhere; this subject was referred to in the last report.

On the 7th October Leteba Sepere, a Baphuthi Chief, residing on the Orange River, below Thlakanelos, died. He has been succeeded by his son Maoala.

Small-pox appeared during the month of February at Mohlapisos, and afterwards in Sekakis ward. There were in all fifteen cases, but fortunately no deaths occurred. Quarantine was strictly enforced, and all the inhabitants of infected and surrounding villages were vaccinated directly lymph could be procured.

The crops were almost a complete failure again with the exception of wheat, although more rain fell this season, it was in all instances followed by incessant heat, which shrivelled up the standing corn.

We were again visited by a few small swarms of locusts, but very little damage was done.

An Agricultural Show was held here early in May, and proved a success, considering it was the first ever held in the district.

Owing to the immense distances, exhibits were not as plentiful as could have been desired.

On the 11th instant an unprecedented fall of snow fell (averaging from three to six feet), followed by continuous severe frosts; large numbers of stock, chiefly sheep and goats perished; the survivors suffered terribly.

Reports on the three Government aided schools in this district were sent in last month.

It seems a great pity that the Chiefs and people cannot be made to observe the "close season" for antelopes; a few years hence all game will have become exterminated, if some stringent measures are not adopted.

Frequently labourers for the army and mines have been called for, but none have availed themselves of the opportunities offered.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	3,149	10	0
Licences	6[illegible]	0	0
Fines	42	7	6
Fees	0	5	0
Miscellaneous	44	17	0
Total ...	£3,299	19	6

Amount of arrear tax paid was £96 10*s*.

Number of huts on which tax was paid was 3,095.

LICENCES.

General traders	2
Paid hawkers	41

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-inspector	1
Native corporal	1
„ privates	14

RETURN OF PATROLS.

Number of patrols	180
„ Men employed	234
„ Miles patrolled	6,563
Arrests for contravening Pass Regulations.	2
Arrests for contravening Liquor Regulations.	—
Arrests for other offences	9

PASS RETU[illegible]

Johannesburg mines	—
Kimberley „	7
Jagersfontein „	3
Cape Colony „	—
Farm and domestic service	992
Other purposes	8,792

The following is a return of the cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Concealment of birth	1
Theft	3
Resisting police	1
Assault	1
Contravening Pass Regulations ...	2
Contravening Border Regulations ...	1
Contravening Trade Regulations ...	2

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	23
Convicted and sentenced	11
Discharged unconvicted	5
In gaol on 30th June, 1902	4

Two prisoners were sent for trial to Maseru.

One prisoner was sent for trial to Mafeteng.

No floggings were inflicted during the year.

Return of Lost or Stolen Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not re covered.
Horses	7	7	—	7	—
Cattle	2	—	2	—	2
Sheep	13	8	5	8	5
Goats	10	6	4	6	4

Prices of Stock and Produce.

Horses	£7 to £30
Cattle	£7 to £16
Sheep	10*s.* to 20*s.*
Goats	10*s.* to 20*s.*
Wool	4½*d.* per lb.
Mohair	7*d.* „
Wheat	20*s* to 25*s.* per bag.
Mealies	20*s.* per bag.
Kaffir corn	20*s.* „

E. D'U. Blyth,

Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Qacha's Nek,

30th June, 1902.

PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT, 1901-1902.

During the year under review the attendances at the various hospitals and dispensaries have been well maintained.

The following table shows the number of cases treated at the different stations :—

Station.	Out patients.		In-patients.	Vaccinations.
	New Cases.	Other Cases.		
Leribe	3,981	—	62	—
Maseru	6,173	844	92	—
Mafeteng	2,735	600	23	1,097
Quthing	1,303	290	—	5,546
	14,192	1,734	177	6,643

The vaccinations performed during the year show a considerable decrease. This is partly due to the freedom of the territory from small-pox and partly owing to the fact that vaccination of those obtaining passes to leave the country was not enforced as was the case before the war. A return to the original practice is eminently desirable. It ensures the vaccination of all those who leave the territory, and the re-vaccination of many of the same class. Except in the presence of an epidemic of small-pox the Basuto will not voluntarily submit to vaccination.

The territory has been, with the exception of Quthing district free of small-pox during the year.

No other epidemic disease calls for special mention. The general health of the people has been exceptionally good. The water supply at some stations is occupying and ought to occupy a good deal of attention. Leribe, Butha Buthe, and Mafeteng stations are the worst off, while the present supply at Maseru is inadequate for the increasing needs of the community when a long spell of dry weather obtains.

The health of the police and prisoners has been excellent. The provision which is being made for increased hospital accommodation at Maseru will meet a long felt want, and the erection of a hospital adequately equipped and under the superintendence of a European matron, will greatly increase both the amount and usefulness of the already extensive work which is done at this and other stations.

The medical and surgical work of the past year will, as usual, be treated of in a separate report.

EDWARD C. LONG,
Principal Medical Officer.

Maseru,
30th June, 1902.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

QUTHING DISTRICT, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 1901–1902.

The following figures will show the number of out-patients treated during the year :—

—	1900–1901.	1901–1902.
Out-patients	1,258	1,303
Subsequent attendances	217	290
Vaccinations performed	5,546	4,824
Total	7,021	6,417

Fourteen patients were accommodated in the dispensary. Of these three were medical and the remainder surgical. There were no deaths.

During April, small-pox broke out in Mafura's ward and caused several deaths. On March 19th a man from Mafura's presented himself at the dispensary and was found to be suffering from small-pox. He was isolated and the disease spread no further.

There have been several cases of typhoid fever in this district but none on, or originating on, the Government reserve.

The health of the police detachment and families and of the prisoners has been good.

ALEX. S. GARDINER,
Medical Officer.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT—LERIBE DISTRICT, 1901-1902.

The following figures will show what amount of work has been done at the hospital and dispensary in comparison with last year.

—	1902.	1901
Attendances at dispensary	3,081	3,491
Patients treated in hospital	62	64
Deaths in hospital	4	3

There is a considerable increase in the number of attendances especially in April, which I am compelled to put down to native curiosity—desire to see a new comer, as latterly the falling off has been such as to bring the numbers down to about the usual. I can, of course, only report on the last three months, that is while I have been working here.

There have been no epidemics and the number of cases of infectious diseases remarkably few, two cases of whooping cough and one of chicken-pox having come under my notice.

The return of the natives from military employment would probably be the cause of introduction of a good number of enteric cases, but up to the present such has not been the case.

The prisoners have suffered from trivial complaints only, the decrease in sickness being due, no doubt, to the better accommodation provided for them,

The proportion of cases of venereal diseases seems remarkably high, especially the neglected cases, the number of eye cases is high as also a form of dyspepsia due to beer-drinking, the rest do not call for comment. Except, as would be expected, serious lung cases are remarkably few in number.

The number of operations performed under chloroform was 13. There were four deaths, one each from debility, erysipelas, poisoning and pneumonia. The majority of cases were surgical, only 20 out of the 62 being medical.

The greatest drawbacks to the satisfactory treatment of disease amongst the inhabitants are first that, either through carelessness or ignorance the case hardly ever comes under observation till it is beyond doing much for, except in the way of palliation, and secondly that the treatment is not carried out long enough to secure permanent results.

R. KINGDON ELLIS,

Acting Medical Officer.

Leribe,
1st July, 1902.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT—MAFETENG DISTRICT, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 1901–1902.

During last year there were 2,735 new cases attended to at this dispensary, and subsequent attendances of same numbered 600, making a total of 3,335 attendances.

The in-patients numbered 23, and were all surgical cases. One case only being of a serious nature, viz., a case of suppurating hydatid cyst of the abdomen. There were no deaths.

Vaccination certificates to the number of 1,097 were issued to natives leaving the country in search of employment.

The general health of the community was good, with the exception of a severe outbreak of typhoid fever in the early summer months. This was not confined to the camp alone, but was more or less distributed throughout the district. Whooping cough continued over from the preceding year, but the type was less severe, and fewer complications followed. Influenza visited us in August and September, but was mild in nature. No small-pox cases were brought to my notice.

Health of police and prisoners good, with the exception of three cases of enteric fever amongst the latter. The younger members of the policemen's families suffered from enteric and whooping cough, but there were few deaths in the camp.

I advised, and the Assistant Commissioner is carrying out certain necessary measures to protect the fountain water supplies in the village from contamination with typhoid and other disease germs. This, when done, will, I think, protect the inhabitants to a great extent in the future.

An increased water supply is much needed, and it is to be hoped that the boring which is being done may lead to the finding of a good supply.

In addition to the usual district work I took over in August, 1901, from Dr. Tomory, the late Medical Officer, the special military hospital which had been established here in February, 1901. There were eight patients still remaining in hospital out of 53 who had been admitted since February 1st, 1901. From this time to December 28th, 1901, when the hospital was taken over by the 16th Field Hospital, as the work had so much increased, I admitted 8 officers, 230 non-commissioned officers and men, 8 natives, 5 Boer prisoners, and 1 poor Dutch refugee. The monthly average being over 50 admissions during the time I was in charge.

Dr. Becker was allowed one assistant from the middle of December until the field hospital took over.

Of the total number of cases admitted, 169 were enteric fever and 17 gun-shot wounds, the remainder being cases of dysentery, debility, rheumatism, veldt sores, bronchitis, hernia, and local and general injuries.

Up to the time of handing over the hospital there were seven deaths, all of which were caused by enteric fever; two of the victims being natives, one a poor Dutch refugee, and the remainder soldiers.

All gun-shot wounds did well, two cases only requiring amputation, one soldier having his leg amputated through the knee joint, and a Boer prisoner having his thigh amputated through the upper third.

If the special military hospital had not been established here I am quite sure that numbers of the poor fellows who suffered from enteric, and recovered here, would not have done so had they been sent from the Basutoland border to the nearest stationary hospital in the Orange River Colony, which would have been at least three times as far from the border as this place is. Even the short journey (comparatively) from the border here was enough to induce great weakness and prostration in many fever cases.

The work was extremely exacting, as besides attending to the sick I had to supply all necessaries, by local purchase, both for the sick and the staff, and I must thank the small, hard-worked, and indefatigable staff for the happy results obtained.

The Assistant Commissioner put every available Government building at the disposal of the sick, the gaoler's house being used for officers until it would hold no more, and then they were accommodated in tents.

Sub-Inspector Murray rendered invaluable service, although little able to spare the time.

To the Rev. Spencer Weigall and the Rev. Emile Vollet much thanks is due for placing the English and French churches and school-rooms at my disposal for the sick and wounded.

W. R. NATTLE,

Medical Officer.

Mafeteng,

July 1st. 1902.

ANNUAL REPORT OF VETERINARY OFFICER.

Maseru,
28th July, 1902.

SIR,

HAVING been informed that the temporary arrangement concerning my services will come to a conclusion on the 31st inst., I have the honour to submit herewith a report on those contagious and infectious diseases in animals which I have found most prevalent in Basutoland, and which, therefore, are of special interest to the Government.

(1.) On my arrival in Maseru, now a little more than 12 months ago, I soon convinced myself that Rinderpest, the disease for which I was more especially appointed, had already established a firm hold in the districts of Maseru and Mafeteng, and that inoculation with bile had been started in earnest under the direction of Messrs. Griffith and Kennan, the energetic Assistant Commissioners of the districts mentioned. I was futhermore told that the disease had, some six weeks previously, suddenly put in its appearance on the farm Mequatleng, in the Orange River Colony, and that it had rapidly spread *viâ* Don Don into Basutoland.

It would naturally be most interesting to ascertain how the dreadful disease was brought to Mequatleng, but I am afraid this mystery will never be solved. I have often heard the opinion expressed that Boers might have imported it, with malice prepense, from German West Africa, but as I am acquainted with the extreme difficulty of keeping Rinderpest material virulent, even for a short period, I venture to say this could not be achieved. My colleague, Dr. Theiler, has repeatedly forwarded fresh parts taken from Rinderpest beasts to Pretoria, and although there was no delay in transmission from Maseru, it was only after several such attempts that Dr. Turner succeeded in infecting the cattle kept in the experimental station for the purpose of serum production.

The outbreak of Rinderpest at Mequatleng shows that the disease had not been stamped out in this part of South Africa, and makes it more than probable that the cinders of infection have all along been kept burning in the adjoining native territories, far from magistracies, and the abode of white people.

When taking over my duties in Basutoland, I did not think it advisable to try and stamp out the disease, as no doubt would have been done in Europe, where well organized veterinary and police departments are in existence. No infectious or contagious disease has ever speedily been eradicated without stringent and often irksome regulations being enforced, and I was, from my experiences during the year 1896, in Khama's country, convinced

that such a course was not feasible in a vast native territory swarming with cattle, and a population hostile to European methods. I, therefore, decided to direct my attention simply to giving the people in the country every assistance to have their cattle inoculated, whenever they were anxious to do so. The work of appointing and instructing inoculators was, therefore, continued, and every care taken for the use of all suitable biles, whether in herds already infected with disease, or still free from it. In this manner I hoped to immunize, in a short space of time, large numbers of animals, and at the same time to give the inoculators a chance of properly filling out their time.

The bile method was selected for general use in Basutoland for the following good reasons, viz. :—

(*a*) The natives were acquainted with it, and had confidence in it, having seen good results during the epidemic of 1897.

(*b*) The method is simple and could, therefore, be carried out without difficulty by the class of men obtainable for the work, even by the natives themselves.

(*c*) The material for the inoculation could be procured without any expense to the Government, as it was to be expected that the natives would fail to report outbreaks of rinderpest without delay, and only ask for help after the disease had spread considerably, thus rendering it more or less easy to obtain a quantity of bile.

So far about 250,000 head of cattle have been inoculated during the last 12 months in Basutoland, and had serum, instead of bile, been used for this purpose it would have meant an additional £5,000 to this Government, whilst the immunity conferred in this way would by no means have been stronger, but in the majority of cases even considerably weaker.

It is, of course, unfortunate that the bile-immunity varies so much in different herds, depending upon its colour, whether green or brown, and its age, for the vaccine should not be kept bottled up in the house or hut even for a few days. If fresh, sweet-smelling bile is used, as was done during the first epidemic in compliance with Professor Dr. Koch's instructions, an immunity is established which is of very considerable duration, and which often lasts for a whole lifetime. Brown galls, however, are also of great use, if only the people would remember that cattle inoculated with this material should be re-inoculated as soon as there is an opportunity to do so. But the natives, who fancy to bestow a special favour upon an inoculator by allowing him to take some gall from a dead beast and inject the living cattle in a hot, dusty kraal, cannot easily be made to understand and to follow this necessary course.

In justice to the public, I am, however, bound to confess that the theory, as well as the practice, of the process of rendering cattle immune, must of necessity appear more or less intricate to an untrained mind, and it is not to be wondered at when the people, black or even white, feel at a complete loss as to what to do when Rinderpest puts in an appearance for the first or second time.

As the Government, be it said to its credit, spared neither expense nor trouble to gain by means of these bile inoculations, the upper hand of Rinderpest, and had for instance in the districts of Maseru, Mafeteng, and Teyateyaneng alone, over 100,000 head of cattle inoculated by the end of the past year 1901, a distinct check was given to the disease, so that for months afterwards no reports reached me, or the Assistant Commissioners of the above mentioned districts with reference to outbreaks and the spreading of the pest. But I regret to say that owing to the fact that numbers of natives refused to have their cattle injected, or made use of old and weak bile without a second inoculation, in order to strengthen the immunity, and due furthermore to the frequent treks of cattle for agricultural, commercial, or marriage purposes, the disease has quite lately shown a distinct recrudesence.

This, however, need not alarm anyone, for the outbreaks are often of a comparatively mild nature and show not much tendency to spread, as in former days, from village to village, but I would all the same point out to Your Honour the necessity of being vigilant and not relaxing the efforts made in the past. Cattle are the pride and the wealth of the Basuto nation, and my advice to use every drop of suitable bile for the inoculation, and reinoculation of the cattle in the country, should remain the battlecry against Rinderpest, until the disease has altogether disappeared. The diseased herd should be injected again as soon as possible, and an effort should be made to use all superfluous bile on those animals, which belonging to the adjoining villages may any day come in contact with the disease. If these are still immunised, well, then the injection can do them no harm, whilst in case of the immunity being defective, only a speedy inoculation will prevent more or less severe losses. The natives are careless, indolent, and often insolent, and to obtain their co-operation, without which success is out of the question, an unusual amount of patience and tact is required.

There has in some districts being a desire to use glycerinated bile instead of pure, and I wish, therefore, to add a few remarks with reference to this subject. Glycerine is added for the purpose of conserving bile, and also with a view of weakening its virulency, which as every experienced inoculator knows, is in exceptional cases so great that its injection is followed by disastrous results. Unfortunately the action of glycerine on pure Rinderpest bile is so detrimental, that it renders the same more or less useless as

a vaccine, and makes it imperative to reinoculate as soon as possible with the best pure bile which can be obtained. Although I do not deny that under favourable circumstances this method can be put to profitable use in individual cases, I maintain that it is not suitable for a country like Basutoland, where it is essential to produce a strong immunity with as few inoculations as possible.

With reference to the injection of blood serum, I may state that this method has great advantages. Blood serum containing no virulent material never endangers the health and life of any animal, but even cures numbers of those which have contracted the disease, provided that acute Gastro-Enteritis has not yet set in. Unfortunately the immunity is of very short duration, and the price almost prohibitive where vast numbers of animals have to be injected. A quantity of 250 ccm., which barely suffices to immunize for a few months half a dozen animals, costs from £1 to £1 10s., and £200 were spent by Government for the purpose of purchasing a small quantity from the Agricultural Department in Cape Town. Although this serum was four or five years old, having been prepared in Kimberley during the first epidemic, it stopped any outbreak of Rinderpest in a herd with remarkable certainty.

I have no hesitation in saying that this method seems to me to be the ideal one in all those cases and countries where inoculation can be successfuly assisted by means of rigorous laws and regulations concerning the doings of cattle owners, which will prevent the reintroduction and recrudescence of disease in those parts which have just been freed by employing the serum method. When the conditions of South Africa have changed, when the trek ox has made room for the engine, and when the general public has grown more friendly disposed towards irksome regulations, then has also the time arrived for the Government to exchange the virulent Rinderpest bile with the purely antitoxic blood serum. If a few private individuals are anxious to do so already on their own account, there can of course be no objection to it.

The method of simultaneously injecting blood serum and virulent blood requires not only the constant tapping of blood, but also a careful microscopical examination of the blood before its use, as various diseases are known to have been communicated in this manner, for instance anthrax, redwater, and various forms of fallziekte. This method, it is true, leaves frequently a considerable degree of immunity, but cannot be satisfactorily carried out by the ordinary inoculator, whether black or white.

(2.) Of other diseases in cattle which almost daily have come to my notice, I must, as second in importance, mention contagious pleuro-pneumonia, generally called lung disease or "sterefe." As a natural result of the introduction of thousands of lung sick cattle by the remounts, which, before my arrival, had taken place without objection from the authorities, this awful disease had

spread rapidly into every part and almost every herd in Basutoland, threatening to carry off large numbers of animals. The rapid spread was mainly due to the brisk trade in these cattle which had been driven together in the late republics, carelessly inoculated against lung disease, and then handed over to the natives in troops of three or four in exchange for suitable riding horses. Of course the Basutos soon noticed the dangerous character of this disease, and, anxious to prevent its spread in their herds, clamoured for inoculation. I think it was rather fortunate for Basutoland that Boer refugees were scattered throughout the length and breadth of the country, who being more or less acquainted with this disease, were able to tender advice to their black neighbours in the village. As practical men they assisted me much by urging the natives on to have their cattle inoculated, and by demonstrating to them the simplicity of the operation as well as its efficacy, though often no other instrument was obtainable than a thick packing needle or a small pocket knife. No doubt they have repaid in this way part of the debt which they owed to Basutoland for the genuine hospitality shown to them and their worldly possessions in the time of need.

I cannot now fully enter into the details of this operation, which is best carried out by means of a hypodermic syringe, with the help of which the small quantity of yellow water, taken from the pleural cavity or from the parenchyma of the lungs, is injected into the brush of the tail. Suffice it to state that the immunity produced, provided the tail has shown a distinct local or general swelling about a fortnight after the inoculation is, as a rule, sufficient to protect the animal against pleuro-pneumonia for the rest of its life. We have, thus, in lung disease, a simple gauge of the strength of the immunity, which is more than can be said in rinderpest, for the local swelling visible one day after the injection of bile is, in this respect, unfortunately, not the slightest criterion, though by many people in the country believed to be such.

I have also come across a good many cases of anthrax in cattle, and at least the white population of Basutoland would do well in making itself acquainted with the process of inoculation, which is known in Europe as Pasteur's method, and which has been tested on hundreds of thousands of animals. Two vaccines are used, of which number II., the stronger one, is injected about a fortnight after the first one. It is possible to immunize a whole span of bullocks for two years for the small sum of about eight shillings, and no risk whatsoever is attached to the operation, which is performed with a small syringe specially constructed for this work. I am fully aware that no law will deter the natives from dissecting and eating the flesh of anthrax-carcasses in the midst of a main road, and no more suitable plan for the prevention of the disease can therefore be recommended than inoculation.

(3.) Though the diseases in cattle absorbed nearly all my time, I was nevertheless interested in the diseases amongst horses in this country whenever the opportunity presented itself. Before the war, horses and mules in Basutoland enjoyed what I might call a general immunity from disease, and they fully equalled in health and strength those bred in other parts of South Africa. I regret, however, to think that owing to the introduction of many diseases, this pleasing state of affairs has assumed quite a different aspect. Indeed, the outlook for horse owners and horse breeders can no longer be considered good, as owing to the action of the remounts on the one hand, and the carelessness and indifference of the natives on the other hand, the diseases to be mentioned by me have firmly established themselves in the land.

Surely the most serious disease attacking horses, mules, and donkeys is glanders, farcy, and enquiries made in different parts of the country indicate that very considerable numbers of animals have succumbed to it during the past two years. The natives who have not before come in contact with this disease, fancied that death was simply due to brandziekte, with which most of the animals were at the same time more or less infected, or were, like many white people, satisfied with calling the disease "nieuwe ziekte," which in South African parlance means that contagious though comparatively harmless malady "strangles." I have always been taught to consider the distribution or sale of animals, which were known or expected to be suffering from dangerous plagues, not only a great wrong, but a distinct crime, and when the people of this country in their want of knowledge and judgment have secured those cheap, but nasty, confiscated animals, and have thus light-heartedly introduced disease into an important and flourishing industry, the blame does not rest with them.

As there is no disease more loathsome and more dangerous, even to men, than this curse of the equine races, it would be well if the Government would keep an eye on it, and to enforce, whenever possible, the clauses of the Act dealing with diseases in stock.

Owing to its protracted and disguised course, which often makes a speedy diagnosis impossible, the disease is not easily dealt with, but as Basutoland is surrounded by countries, who will in future become more and more anxious to prevent the introduction, and spread of infectious disease within its borders, particular notice should be taken of the appearance of such pests, and an earnest effort be made to disseminate information and punish offenders.

The so-called Brandzikte or Scab, is a most unpleasant disease, and spreads very easily from diseased horses or mules to sound ones. It is met with, I may almost say, in every village of the country, and has since its importation done an immense amount of damage. Thousands of horses have died from its emaciating

effects, and travelling through the country one sees everywhere animals which cannot be described otherwise than as skeletons, with a skin almost wholly devoid of hair, and full of wrinkles and scabs. Truly, it is a pitiable sight to watch these poor creatures rub the itching tegument of their body against rocks or trees, or even against the prominent parts of their not less unfortunate comrades.

In European countries this disease would be battled against as vigorously as is done in the case of other pests, but I am afraid all that can be done in Basutoland is to give advice, and to assist with drugs. It is unfortunate that the natives cling to the idea that the disease must be cured by the internal administration of drugs, and then neglect to direct their immediate attention to the affected parts themselves. It is by no means a matter of difficulty to cure such animals, provided the owner is in possession of a reliable disinfectant, and begins the work with thoroughness and energy. It is only a pity that these qualities are not every day met with in this free country.

I believe that a great deal of good could be done by supplying to the people at cost price a cheap and yet effective medicine for their scabby animals, and I do not think that a liniment consisting of tar, soft soap, and spirits of wine could be surpassed in this respect, though many other drugs may be employed with the same beneficial result. It is almost needless to say that the diseased skin should be well washed from time to time, to allow the drug to come in direct contact with the agent produciug this scourge. Another disease which I have frequently seen in Basutoland, and which no doubt has been imported during the war from Europe, is contagious pleuro pneumonia, commonly called pink eye. It has spread into all the districts of the country, but the mortality is luckily not great. Though the respirations may remain short and accelerated for months, or even for lifetime in some cases, recovery is mostly complete, leaving behind an immunity which is strong enough to prevent a subsequent second attack. The disease runs a typical course and the administration of medicines, though no doubt often of considerable value, is not an absolute necessity. Fresh air, without draught, and easily digested food, such as green stuff and bran, with plenty of salt, are in conjunction with good bedding, and a warm blanket, in my opinion of more importance. If the disease breaks out in a stable, the affected animal should at once be removed to prevent the disease, which is of a very catching nature, from spreading to other animals. These are not all the diseases, which have of late been introduced into this country but they are the most important ones, and will continue to be of general interest for many years to come.

(4.) I am aware that the Government has purchased several valuable stallions for the purpose of improving the Basutoland pony, and I have been told that they will arrive shortly in the

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 408.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1902-3.

(For Report for 1901–2, *see* No. 380.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

December, 1903.

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1903.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
388	Weihaiwei	1902
389	Sierra Leone	"
390	British Honduras	"
391	Gambia	"
392	St. Helena	"
393	Hong Kong	"
394	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
395	Seychelles	"
396	Ceylon	"
397	Gold Coast	"
398	Barbados	1902–1903
399	Fiji	1902
400	Lagos	"
401	British Solomon Islands	1902–1903
402	Cocos-Keeling Islands	1903
403	St Vincent	1902–1903
404	Grenada	1902
405	Southern Nigeria	"
406	Straits Settlements	"
407	Trinidad and Tobago	1902–1903

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
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16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Weihaiwei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou.

No. 408.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1901-2, *see* No. 380.)

High Commissioner Sir A. Lawley to Mr. Lyttelton.

High Commissioner's Office,
Johannesburg,
October 12th, 1903.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner, Maseru, transmitting the Annual Reports on Basutoland for the year ended 30th June, 1903.

I shall be glad if you will supply me with printed copies in due course.

I have, &c.,
Arthur Lawley,
High Commissioner.

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FROM THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, MASERU, TO HIGH COMMISSIONER.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Maseru,
30th September, 1903.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to Your Excellency my Report upon Basutoland for the year ended 30th June, 1903, together with the Annual Reports of the Government Secretary, the Assistant Commissioners, and the Medical Officers.

I have, &c.,

H. C. SLOLEY,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency,
Sir A. Lawley, K.C.M.G.,
High Commissioner,
South Africa.

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ANNUAL REPORT—BASUTOLAND. FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1903.

The past year has been a period of continued financial prosperity. The figures given in the Report of the Government Secretary show that the revenue from all sources exceeded the expenditure by £25,128; the balance to credit of the Basutoland Government has, therefore, been increased by that sum, and now amounts to £100,508.

This balance is in the hands of the Standard Bank of South Africa, £46,000 being placed on fixed deposit account bearing interest at 3 per cent.

With the approval of His Excellency the High Commissioner, it is proposed to lend the balance, or so much of it as may be required (probably £90,000), at a low rate of interest, to the Central South African Railway Committee for the purpose of construction of a branch from the eastern extension of the Orange River Colony railways to Maseru in Basutoland. A survey of the contemplated branch has been completed, and I hope that the Construction Department of the Central South African Railways may shortly be able to commence the work. I am very hopeful as to the effect of the railway, as a civilizing and enlightening influence, upon the Basuto, and as a factor in the material prosperity of the country.

Basutoland has, by Proclamation, been included in the South African Customs Union, and will benefit by the new arrangement under which only 5 per cent. of duties collected are retained by the coast colonies. The new tariff itself will not materially affect the Customs Revenue.

The amount of trade during the year has exceeded expectations, and is little less than during the preceding year. The cause of this continued commercial activity is probably the amount of money which has been in the hands of the natives as the result of war payments and prices. One feature of the year has been the embarrassing number of applications for trading licences in this country. It is not desirable, except in cases of clearly-shown public necessity, to multiply the number of trading stations, each of which is a possible point of friction between the natives and the European residents, and, with very few exceptions, I have declined to sanction the issue of new licences.

The Basuto have gone out to work in a manner which testifies to their industrious character, and which may be regarded as a very fair contribution to the labour supply of South Africa. The return of passes given in Mr. Wroughton's Report shows that 132,588 left the country during the year in search of work.

country. I trust it will not be omitted to issue special instructions to those in charge of the stallions, concerning a careful inspection of all the mares brought near, and also concerning their management, when approached by the stallion. If such is done there is little fear that contagious diseases may be communicated, which not only may prove annoying, but may positively endanger their lives, or that these precious animals may be injured by receiving more or less severe kicks from the animals in attendance.

Many people have consulted me during the past 12 months, when their horses or cattle were suffering from ordinary ailments, or had to undergo a surgical operation, and I have always gladly given my advice or a helping hand. But the treatment had in all such cases to be simple, not from want of knowledge, but owing to the fact that my resources were exceedingly limited, my appointment was temporary and due to the prevalence of rinderpest, so that the establishment of a fully equipped veterinary department could hardly be undertaken.

In concluding my report I confess that I feel sorry to give up the work which has been entrusted to me for just one year, and which, when the complete eradication of rinderpest is kept in view, still appears unfinished.

Last, but not least, I desire to place on record my high appreciation for the hospitality received everywhere, when touring the country, and the genuine kindness bestowed upon me, more especially by Your Honour's representatives in the various districts.

I have, &c.,

OTTO HENNING.

Government Veterinary Surgeon,

late Veterinary Captain S.A.C.

His Honour

The Resident Commissioner,

Basutoland.

There are at present no less than 19 industries represented by agents in Basutoland who are employed in recruiting labourers. The minimum wage necessary to attract natives is £2 10*s.* a month with food, and, in many cases, higher wages are offered. It is noticeable that comparatively few of the Basuto labourers choose to go to the Johannesburg goldfields, but appear to be able to find nearer and more attractive employment.

The year has been from an agricultural point of view an unfortunate one. The wheat crop alone was of average quantity, the drought in the summer and the early frosts having caused the failure of the greater portion of the mealie and Kaffir corn. I fear that before another crop can be reaped there will be scarcity of food in several parts of the country, and the natives will have to buy grain for their own consumption.

Experiments have been made at most Government stations in the direction of checking the process of denudation of the country, and the formation of the unsightly ravines or dongas, which threaten to seriously diminish the available area of arable and pasture land.

The increase of stock, and the multiplication of roads and footpaths, has resulted in the removal of the grassy protective covering of the surface, and the land is year by year more exposed to the process of erosion by the action of rain water. The experiments have been conducted in accordance with suggestions made by Sir William Willcocks, who visited Basutoland in the course of his South African tour. It is too early to speak positively as to the effects of the steps taken, nor can the results, however successful, make much impression on the numberless and vast dongas that everywhere disfigure the country. I hope, though without much confidence, that what is being done may serve as an object lesson to the Basuto, and that they may with such means as are at their command, endeavour to deal with some of these dongas themselves. It is one of the drawbacks of the system of tribal tenure of land, that there is little incentive to individuals to expend means or labour in such measures of public utility.

Tree planting has been carried on, where possible, in the neighbourhood of the Government stations, and a useful impetus should be given to the horse breeding industry by the importation of seven Arab stallions of high class which have been distributed throughout the country, and the services of which are freely given to the Basuto breeders.

During the year Agricultural Shows have been held at all stations at which special Government prizes have been given for exhibits of horses, stock and produce. It is gratifying to observe that an increasing and more intelligent interest appears to be taken in these shows, and missionaries and traders co-operate in endeavouring to render them attractive and useful.

Sporadic cases of rinderpest have been reported during the year, and have been dealt with by inoculation with serum from the Pretoria laboratory. I am happy to report that no case of rinderpest is at present known to exist in Basutoland.

The following is a list of the Proclamations issued during the year :—

(1.) No. 8 of 1902.—Proclaiming His Majesty's forces in Basutoland to continue to be temporarily subject to the Army Act.

(2.) No. 7 of 1903.—Proclaiming the "Official Gazette" of the High Commissioner for South Africa to be the Government Gazette of the Territory of Basutoland.

(3.) No. 8 of 1903.—Making provision for the prevention of rabies within the Territory of Basutoland.

(4.) No. 9 of 1903.—Concerning the amount of hut tax payable in Basutoland.

The only one of the above legislative Proclamations that requires any special comment is that referring to the increased rate of hut tax. The increased rate of £1 per hut has actually been paid since 1899, but no formal Proclamation legalising the change had been made. The Proclamation has retrospective effect, and legalises the collections that have for four years been made at the increased rate.

The financial position of Basutoland has permitted increased grants to be made towards the educational work of the Mission Societies. The sum of £6,660 was thus distributed in grants, and returns show that 14,171 scholars were on the school books with an average attendance of 10,024.

By the courtesy of the Superintendent-General of Education of the Cape Colony, I have been able to obtain the temporary services of Mr. Davidson of the Cape Education Department, for the purpose of an inspection of the schools, and I shall, in due time, forward his report on the results of the inspection. Speaking generally on the subject, I may say that there appears to be a great and increasing desire among the natives for instruction, and a determination on the part of a certain number to have what may be called "higher education," that is, to pursue their studies beyond the scope of the ordinary elementary schools.

While I fully recognise that there does not appear to be in South Africa at present any useful career for more than a very limited number of young natives with any degree of higher education, on the literary side, it would be a mistake to overlook the probability that, if they cannot find nearer home some outlet for their aspirations in this direction, they will seek for it elsewhere. I believe a certain number of young natives from the

Colony have already proceeded to America for educational purposes. Under these circumstances, it appears to be well to afford opportunities to a certain proportion of the youths for continuing their studies under wise direction and discipline, and this object is, I believe, obtained satisfactorily in the higher schools of the Basutoland Missions.

The Government Hospitals and Dispensaries have done good and useful work for the natives, the returns showing that 321 in-patients and 19,033 out-patients have been relieved. The hospital buildings and equipment have, hitherto, been of a somewhat primitive description, and the medical officers have achieved very satisfactory results under circumstances of some difficulty. I am happy to be able to report that a very substantial improvement in this respect will be effected before the close of the current year. A new hospital is in course of erection at Maseru, completely equipped and furnished, and provided with 30 beds for native patients. A small, but efficient, nursing staff will be engaged, and the medical officer at Maseru will be in a position to carry on his useful work with the advantage of trained assistance. I trust it may be possible in time to build and equip improved hospitals at other stations.

The criminal returns show few cases of serious crime among the Basuto. A few cattle thefts, on a somewhat large scale, took place in the earlier part of the year, but the delinquents were suitably punished, and the stolen stock returned to the owners in the Orange River Colony. The cases of culpable homicide dealt with are, without exception, the fatal results of drunken brawls at beer drinks, and only one case of premeditated murder has been discovered. In this instance, the murderer was arrested in Basutoland, and handed over to the authorities of the Orange River Colony (where the crime occurred) and was tried and executed.

In another case, a body was found under circumstances which left no room for doubt that the victim had been murdered and robbed, but no clue to the perpetrators of the crime could be discovered. Both the above murders were committed on the persons of labourers returning to their homes with their wages. Under ordinary circumstances deliberate murder is almost unknown among the Basuto.

The population may be estimated at 263,000, and the general state of the public health is fully dealt with in the reports of the Medical Officers. The lepers throughout the country have been registered, and notes made as to the history of every known case. A special report on the subject has been prepared by the Principal Medical Officer. I am unable at present to recommend any practicable measure for the treatment of lepers beyond the local isolation of the worst cases, which is generally carried out by the natives themselves.

Telegraph communication has been extended to Peka station; and the line throughout Basutoland has been doubled and strengthened. The telephonic communication between stations is a great convenience.

I propose, during the coming year, to recommend an increase of expenditure on the main roads throughout Basutoland. The work hitherto done has kept all roads in a passable condition, but some improvement is desirable. Basutoland abounds in good sandstone, suitable for building material, but there is a scarcity of hard stone for road metal. The important magistracy and village of Hlotsi Heights in Leribe has for years suffered the disadvantage of a most inadequate water supply, and I propose to place on the Estimates for the coming year a sum for the provision of a simple water system for this place.

The year has happily been uneventful as regards the internal political situation in Basutoland, and, with reference to some of the intertribal dissensions, I have been able to make certain arrangements, which I trust will tend towards the future peace and good order of the country. The release of Joel Molapo from prison in April was very naturally followed by a renewal of the friction between himself and his half-brother Hlasoa, in regard to their land dispute at Tsimi. Joel has been inclined to press his claim to the control of Hlasoa and his land, and Hlasoa has asserted his intention of maintaining his complete independence. Mr. Macgregor, the Assistant Commissioner of the district, has dealt judiciously with the question, and has recently held a meeting with the parties to the dispute, at which a fair prospect of a satisfactory compromise of the question was arrived at.

A dispute of long standing as to a boundary between the sons of the late Chief Ramanella, was dealt with by me, and there is reason to hope that the matter is finally settled.

In March I proceeded to the Quthing District, and, at a meeting of 10 days' duration, investigated a number of complaints against the local Chief Nkwebe Letsie. The Paramount Chief Lerothodi was with me, and had a representative following of Chiefs and Councillors. The public feeling strongly condemned the harsh and aggressive conduct of Nkwebe, and I gave judgment accordingly in the direction of preserving the rights and privileges of the petty Chiefs, who were the complainants. The death of Nkwebe, which took place early in July, has since considerably altered the situation in Quthing.

The conclusion of the war was followed by a crop of rumours as to the intentions of His Majesty's Government towards the Basuto. The native mind was considerably exercised by reports as to approaching disarmament and other political changes. This uneasiness appeared to be dispelled after a meeting between His Excellency the High Commissioner and the leading Chiefs, which took place at Ladybrand, in the Orange River Colony, in

December, 1902. The fact that such a meeting took place, and that no startling announcement as to change of policy was made, had evidently the effect of reassuring the Chiefs and people. Rumours such as I have alluded to are fostered by the wild talk of foolish or designing persons on the border, and by newspaper paragraphs which are read by natives, who are prone to unduly over-estimate the importance of such reports.

In February, 1903, I accompanied a party of Chiefs and Councillors, who were given an opportunity of proceeding to Bloemfontein to convey the national greeting of the Basuto to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The first meeting of the Basutoland National Council took place in July, 1903, and the report and proceedings of the meeting have been fully dealt with by me in despatches. But it is right to place on record in this report that the meeting was characterised by sincere attempts to abolish defects in the system of native self-government. A variety of topics were usefully discussed, as a rule with good sense and moderation, although, of course, with the usual prolixity of native orators.

The most remarkable feature of the Session was the spontaneous resolution in favour of the consideration and regulation of certain native laws and customs. Eighteen resolutions were adopted, the majority tending towards checking and controlling the arbitrary and rapacious decisions of courts of native Chiefs. It was evident that the meeting strongly desired to reform the native system in the direction of obtaining greater security of property and of land tenure, and this indication of public feeling in these matters should have a good effect. Free expression of opinion at public meetings is the rule among the Basuto, but at this very representative and important gathering, there was an unusual amount of plain speaking of the nature of criticism of the Chiefs.

On the whole, although it might be misleading to predict with complete confidence the permanent utility of this National Council, the first meeting may be regarded as a most encouraging experiment.

From time to time the ill-health of the Paramount Chief Lerothodi, has prevented him from taking as active a part in national affairs as I could have wished. This is, without doubt, to a great extent, due to his disregard of medical advice as to necessary temperance and carefulness in diet. It is right to say that he has on occasion pluckily come forward to attend to public business when under considerable physical suffering.

The Basuto generally have during the year enjoyed peace and prosperity. The Chiefs, although by no means faultless, have, as a rule, exercised their very considerable power with moderation, and, although they exhibit no disposition to submit to

effacement in the slightest degree, they are prudent enough to defer to the admonition of Government Officers, and to expressions of public opinion. The cases of exaction and injustice which are complained of are the exceptions to the rule. Reports of cruelty, accusations of witchcraft, and wholesale confiscation of property, which were frequent twenty years ago, are rarely brought to my notice.

The process of any change in the tribal character or habits must necessarily be a slow one, and the best that may be hoped for the Basuto is that they may, however gradually, become more industrious and enlightened, and may be preserved from the deterioration which appears to attend the contact of natives with modern civilization.

I beg to place on record the good services of the officers of the Administration. The senior officers are a body of public servants whose character commands the confidence of the Basuto Chiefs and people, and who possess the advantage of many years' experience in the service of His Majesty's Government in South Africa.

I have, &c.,

H. C. SLOLEY,

Resident Commissioner.

Maseru,

30th August, 1903.

ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARY, 1902-1903.

Government Secretary's Office,
Maseru,
15th July, 1903.

SIR,

IN submitting for your information the usual Reports from the Assistant Commissioners, Basutoland, for the year ending 30th June, 1903, I have the honour to attach the following summary of statistical information, gathered from these and other sources.

On the whole the year may be described as a very satisfactory one.

FINANCIAL.

The Revenue of the country for the year just ended was:—

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	62,387	0	0
Post Office	2,953	16	10
Licences	4,451	1	6
Fees	155	18	10
Miscellaneous receipts... ...	3,515	14	6
	73,463	11	8
Customs	27,935	12	6
Total ...	£101,399	4	2

The Expenditure for the same period amounted to £76,271 12*s.* 11*d.*

I also append a Return showing comparative Revenue and Expenditure for the last five years:—

Year ending.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
30th June, 1899	46,847	16	8	46,417	12	9
30th June, 1900	69,769	16	4	59,492	7	6
30th June, 1901	74,890	19	1	55,485	14	5
30th June, 1902	104,284	1	4	64,809	18	1
30th June, 1903	101,399	4	2	76,271	12	11

Hut Tax was paid on 60,356 huts, while arrear Hut Tax collected amounted to £3,089, as against £5,138 in 1901-1902, the excess in that year being largely owing to Chief Joel Molapo having brought his tax up to date as mentioned in my last year's report.

Trade and Agriculture.

The Territory has earned £27,935 by Customs under the Union, which, when compared with last year (£33,097), shows a considerable shortage. This, however, is natural, and was fully expected. The amount earned may, I think, be considered most satisfactory, considering the circumstances of the year.

Below is a comparative table showing Exports and Imports for the last two years :—

Exports.

Articles	Year ended 30th June, 1902.				Year ended 30th June, 1903.			
	Quantity.	Value.			Quantity.	Value.		
	Muids.	£	s.	d.	Muids.	£	s.	d.
Wheat	35,623	19,342	4	0	116,275	81,847	0	9
Mealies	85,445	46,621	9	6	60,794	55,014	14	6
Kaffir corn ...	8,494	6,751	16	0	25,856	22,888	7	0
Meal	3,434	4,156	5	0	6,251	7,574	10	6
Mealie meal ...	1,299	887	2	0	132	101	0	0
	Lbs.				Lbs.			
Wool ...	3,729,173	46,794	5	8	2,859,671	45,140	4	7
Mohair	406,853	10,691	10	8	396,710	11,454	11	10
	No.				No.			
Horses	656	9,049	15	0	81	1,227	10	0
Cattle	1,574	20,453	10	0	1,241	17,571	11	0
Miscellaneous ...	—	2,146	5	9	—	16,107	13	6
Total ...	—	166,894	3	7	—	258,927	3	8

Imports.

—	1901-1902.	1902-1903.
	£	£
Apparel, slops, &c.	13,350	11,635
Cotton manufactures	62,110	43,642
Woollen "	57,590	57,974
Haberdashery	22,070	30,178
Provisions, oilman's stores, &c. ...	27,820	10,640
Other goods	47,740	36,950
Total	£230,680	191,019

There are no figures at my disposal to enable me to separate British and Foreign imports exactly, but it is thought by those competent to judge that the relative proportion would be about 87½ per cent. British imports as against 12½ per cent. Foreign.

There has been a very marked increase in exports this year. This is chiefly due to the large export of wheat, which has not been so high since 1896.

Licences.

General trader	156
Hawker (paid)	423
„ (free)	232
Mill licences	2

Passes.

A large number of passes were issued this year (132,588) of which between 60,000 and 70,000 were for work of one kind or another. A very small proportion (under 8,000) went to Johannesburg, and I think that only a small proportion of these were for the actual mines themselves.

Passes.

——	Leribe.	Berea.	Maseru.	Mafeteng.	M. Hoek.	Quthing.	Qacha's Nek.	Totals.
Johannesburg	1,731	706	4,968	207	199	17	7	7,835
Kimberley	701	—	1,339	36	442	9	6	2,533
Natal Mines	1,164	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,164
Railways	3,820	584	1,168	431	51	—	—	6,054
Farm and Domestic ...	13,797	425	2,464	7,632	6,591	1,873	1,260	34,042
Other purposes	21,816	12,365	10,526	12,791	4,762	5,448	10,494	78,202
Cape Coal Mines	—	—	106	25	153	47	21	352
Jagersfontein	—	—	123	1,666	233	—	8	2,030
Military	—	306	—	64	6	—	—	376
Total ...	43,029	14,386	20,694	22,852	12,437	7,394	11,796	132,588

During the year the sum of £2,760 was remitted from native labourers in Johannesburg to their relatives in Basutoland through the Transvaal Native Affairs Department and myself.

Remittances to the Leribe District alone amounted to more than half the whole sum mentioned.

Education.

The figures in this Return still show an upward tendency.

—	1901–1902.	1902–1903.
Schools	197	206
Scholars	13,021	14,171
Mean average attendance	9,057	10,024
Expenditure	£5,212 13*s.* 10*d.*	£6,660 17*s.* 7*d.*

Police and Judicial.

The following are the Police and Judicial Returns :

European officers	12
„ constables	4
Native officers	5
„ sergeants	6
„ corporals	10
„ privates	230
„ constables	3

Patrol Return.

Number of patrols	1,777
„ men on patrol	3,186
Estimated distance (in miles) patrolled	45,545
Arrests under Liquor Laws ...	19
„ „ Pass Laws	152
Other offences	151

The following cases were heard in the Assistant Commissioners' Courts :—

Cases Return.

Culpable homicide	15
Theft	64
Pass Regulations	279
Trading Regulations	31
Resisting police	3
Assault	6
Other crimes	84
Civil actions	25

Gaol Return.

Prisoners received into gaol	452
„ convicted	366
„ discharged unconvicted ...	74
„ in gaol 30th June, 1903 ...	86
Floggings inflicted	Nil.

Lost Stock Return.

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	96	24	72	23	73
Cattle	216	140	76	140	76
Sheep	803	307	496	307	496

Postal and Telegraph.

I am indebted to the courtesy of the Postmaster-General, Cape Town, for the following Postal and Telegraphic statistics.

Correspondence.

Letters posted in Basutoland	262,509
„ received in Basutoland	268,788

Money Orders.

			£	s.	d.
Issued	5,407	Value	14,759	7	11
Paid	1,558	„	5,851	6	11

Savings Bank.

283	Deposits with total value of	3,217	11 5
83	Withdrawals with total value of ...	2,726	3 10

Telegraphs.

The Revenue from this source collected in the Territory amounted to £1,310 2*s.* 3*d.*

Population.

Whites	580
Natives	262,000

I have, &c.,

L. Wroughton,
Government Secretary.

ANNUAL REPORT—LERIBE DISTRICT, 1902-1903.

When my last Annual Report was written, the Chief Joel was about to be tried for disloyal conduct during the late war. He was found guilty and sentenced to one year's imprisonment. The political situation in his ward was, however, not greatly altered. Hlasoa was replaced in his holding at Tsime, from whence it will be remembered Joel had driven him in 1899. He was not replaced under Joel, who was his former overlord, neither was he definitely taken from him, and the policy indicated to me, which I have persistently followed with very fair results, has been to urge all parties to bury the past. Hlasoa was told, although he was not put back under Joel, to treat him with respect and consideration, by attending his "Matsima," and observing the little amenities which native custom exacts from the junior to his seniors. Joel was told that though Hlasoa, and what is more important his holding, had not been so far taken from him, he must act with great caution and carefully abstain from all action which might be in the least likely to cause irritation. Jonathan did not accept this policy with a good grace. It was, perhaps, hardly to be expected that he would, in view of Joel's habitual insubordination towards himself. But while he has done little to forward it, I am bound to say that I have not become aware of his having done anything to thwart it.

There was naturally much friction at first on the part of Joel's sons, and latterly, on Joel's release from prison, which took place on April 17th. Both parties seem at present to have accepted the situation, and I do not hear of any serious complaints from either. But before anything like a satisfactory situation is evolved, certain long-standing grievances of Hlasoa will have to be removed, and I am not without the hope that this may be accomplished in the further pursuance of the present policy.

The Chief Motsuene's position is still unsatisfactory. There is constant friction between him and Jonathan, which, owing to Motsuene's rank and the attitude of the Paramount Chief Lerothodi, the latter finds it difficult to deal with. Possibly if he were to approach Lerothodi with goodwill, and a *bonâ fide* desire to arrive at an understanding with him, something might be accomplished, but I regret to say he does not do this.

The settlement last year of the dispute between the sons of Lesaoana seems to have been very satisfactory. There has been no further trouble, and I have on several occasions noticed Peete and Seshope working together in a manner which would have appeared impossible a few years ago.

I regret that I cannot record any improvement at Makhoakhoene; Letsika is still in dispute with his brothers, but perhaps

the most pressing question at this time is one about which there ought to be no question at all, and that is the position of Thakabanna, Letsika's eldest son, whom he now desires to disinherit. Jonathan favours Thakabanna, and I believe the matter is now before the Paramount Chief, who, so far as I know, has not yet expressed himself definitely upon it, though he, in common with everyone else, has, up to now, recognised Thakabanna as Letsika's heir.

How far Letsika will be able to carry out his intention remains to be seen, but native custom has before now proved fairly rigid in these matters, and instances are not wanting in which it has been too strong for certain Chiefs desirous, for personal reasons, of disinheriting their natural heirs in place of some more favoured junior. It is, I think, to be hoped that it will prove so in this case, and that a disturbing precedent will not be created.

The situation at Ramapepe's is still as it was left by Sir Godfrey Lagden in 1900, when Raboka and his clan were placed directly under the Assistant Commissioner, pending the placing of Jonathan's son Tau, which was then under discussion. This is quite an anomaly under our system, and it was never intended to last as long as it has. But Jonathan, though from time to time I have represented it to him, has not taken any steps for the placing of his son, and does not seem in the least inclined to do so. The arrangement suits him very well, as Raboka is his staunch adherent, and may be relied on to further his interests, which he can do in many little ways without giving me cause to intervene. On the other hand Khetisa, whose interests are antagonistic to Jonathan's, is very dissatisfied. Raboka is no friend of his, and his influence, which used to be paramount in the ward, is diminishing perceptibly. He is, therefore, very anxious for the present arrangement to end, but whether it can ever end in a manner likely to give him satisfaction, and restore his lost influence, is very doubtful.

Notwithstanding all these elements of discord, I am glad to say that the general conduct of the Chiefs has been satisfactory. The more important of them seem to have acquired a more just idea of their responsibilities, and the possibility of their resorting to arms to adjust their differences, as so frequently happened in former years, is becoming more and more remote.

The epidemic of rinderpest, reported last year, has died out, and for some six months the district has been clear.

There have, on the other hand, been several outbreaks of small-pox, imported in most instances. These have been successfully dealt with as they occurred by strict quarantine and vaccination, and the disease has not spread to any great extent.

There has been a partial failure of the crops this year owing to the late rains and early frosts, and I fear there will be considerable scarcity before the next crops can be reaped.

The water supply of this station, which has always been inadequate, has now become a question of the most urgent importance, owing to the weakening of the spring, upon which we have hitherto depended. A scheme is now under consideration for bringing a supply from Sebotoane Mountain, a distance of about four miles.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	15,914	10	0
Judicial fines	410	17	6
Licences	578	0	0
Fees	9	19	4
Miscellaneous	78	5	0
Total	£16,991	11	10

Hut tax was paid on 15,217 huts.

Amount of arrear tax paid was £1,231 0*s.* 0*d.*

LICENCES.

General traders' licences	46
Hawkers' licences (paid)	100
„ „ (free)	210

The following cases were tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Theft	9
Treason	1
Homicide	8
Assault	4
Intimidation	1
Breach of the peace	4
Contempt of Court	2
Resisting the Police	1
Fraud	1
Contravening Pass Regulations	169
„ Customs Regulations	4
„ Trading „	6
Civil Actions	5

The strength of the Police detachment in this district is :—

Inspector	1
Sub-inspectors	2
Native officer	1
Chief constable	1
Native sergeants...	1
„ corporals...	3
„ Lance corporals...	1
„ privates	52

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	155
„ „ convicted and sentenced ...	146
„ „ discharged unconvicted ...	3
„ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1903...	20
Floggings inflicted...	Nil.

Prices of Stock and Produce.

Ponies	£25 to £30.
Cattle	£15 to £20.
Sheep	30*s.*
Mealies, per muid	25*s.*
Wheat	30*s.*
Kaffir corn	35*s.*
Oat hay, per 100 bundles ...	25*s.* to 30*s.*
Wool, per lb.	3*d.*
Mohair, per lb.	9*d.*

Patrols.

Number of patrols	400
„ men employed	605
„ miles covered	9,334

Lost or Stolen Stock.

	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	3	7	2	8
Cattle	34	15	35	14
Sheep	21	14	30	5

Passes Issued.

Johannesburg Mines	1,731
Kimberley „	701
Natal „	1,164
Railway construction	3,820
Agricultural work	13,797
Other purposes	21,816

Arrests.

The following arrests were made: –

Contravening Liquor Regulations ...	1
„ Pass „ ...	209
Other offences	105

J. C. Macgregor,

Assistant Commissioner.

Leribe,

30th June, 1903.

ANNUAL REPORT—BUTHA BUTHE DISTRICT, 1902-1903.

Several matters of an important political nature, which had necessarily to remain in abeyance during the late South African war, came to the front soon after peace was declared.

Chief Joel Molapo was summoned to Maseru to answer charges of persistent disloyalty, and of having during the year 1899 caused arms to be taken up against his younger brother Hlasoa, which resulted in the death of several persons, and the forcible expulsion of Hlasoa and his followers from his tenement of Tsime.

These charges were easily proved, and Joel was sentenced by the Resident Commissioner to be imprisoned for one year, and to pay a fine of five hundred head of cattle. It was further settled that Hlasoa and his followers should be replaced at their home at Tsime.

On the 25th July the Resident Commissioner, the Assistant Commissioner of Leribe, representatives of the Paramount Chief, other influential representatives of the Basuto nation, and I, proceeded to Tsime, and Hlasoa was formally repatriated there. Hlasoa, at Tsime, had formerly been under the chieftainship of Joel, and in replacing him there it was not said that Tsime should be definitely removed from Joel's control, but that Joel, or rather, in his absence in gaol, his representatives, should not interfere there, or do anything calculated to cause irritation.

After Hlasoa's expulsion from Tsime, Joel had settled a number of his own immediate followers there, and the Resident Commissioner in repatriating him ordered these persons to remove.

As might have been expected, Joel's younger sons, notably Qhobela, who lives close to Tsime, soon endeavoured, by every cunning means in their power, to obtain a footing there and to otherwise annoy Hlasoa. Scarcely a week passed without Hlasoa bringing some well founded complaint to me to this effect. I was caused a deal of anxiety, and in view of the different interests at stake the matter required very careful handling. Qhobela at length, finding that the Government was firm in its policy, desisted in his designs, and for about six months before Joel's release from gaol Hlasoa had nothing to complain about. Joel was released from gaol in April, and shortly after his return home complaints from Hlasoa commenced to reach me. He complained that people from Joel, who did not live there, were ploughing fields at Tsime, that some of the houses in one of his villages had been destroyed by

persons removing the thatched roofs, and generally that he was being persecuted. Upon enquiry I found that these complaints were well founded, and submitted a special report of the matter to the Assistant Commissioner, Leribe.

I had no doubt that Joel had instigated these acts with a view to ascertaining how far he could interfere at Tsime with impunity. As a result of my report, which was transmitted to the Resident Commissioner, representatives of the Paramount Chief were sent to Joel, and he was plainly told that he would be held responsible if anything of the kind recurred.

Since then no further attempt at interference with Tsime from outside has been reported to me.

For geographical and political reasons Tsime should be under Joel's chieftainship, but it would be obviously impossible to allow this until the bad feeling caused by the late trouble has died out.

It is the policy and constant endeavour of the Government to promote goodwill between Joel and Hlasoa.

I desire to place on record the valuable assistance I received from Mopedi, the eldest son of Joel, who represented the latter while in gaol.

His position was a difficult one and demanded considerable tact. There are the usual family disputes in the Makhuakhua ward. One of prominent importance is between Letsika, the head of the clan, and his eldest son Thakabanna.

Letsika's jealousy of Thakabanna may almost be described as a mania. In addition to curtailing his power as far as possible, he has recently been endeavouring to prove that Tumane, a very younger son, is in reality his heir. I think Letsika will find it difficult to establish this, but as I have recently rendered a special report on this subject I will not now go into it in detail.

It is always a matter of delicacy to interfere in disputes between a father and son, and unless absolute injustice is proved against the former it is generally advisable, as far as possible, to support his authority and to maintain obedience and filial duty.

When peace was declared a number of farms in the Orange River Colony were unoccupied by their owners, and I feared that individual natives might be tempted to cross over from this ward for the purpose of stealing unprotected stock. I consequently instructed Joel and Letsika to call their people together, and to warn them of the very serious consequences which would ensue to persons who should steal from the Orange River Colony. I do not know whether or not these meetings caused the following satisfactory results, but the fact remains that,

considering the enormous native population close to the border, comparatively few such thefts have taken place during the year under review.

The exact figures are as follows :—

Number of stolen cattle traced into Butha Buthe ward	34
Number of stolen sheep traced into Butha Buthe ward	1
Number of stolen goats traced into Butha Buthe ward	31

All these animals were recovered by us and returned to the owners, with the exception of one cow which died a natural death in Basutoland, and one goat which was killed by the thief. All the thieves implicated in the thefts were arrested and punished.

I hope, and have reason to believe, that farmers in the Orange River Colony living near the border now realise that they are practically secure from this particular kind of depredation.

The amount of current hut-tax collected during the year is satisfactory, although slightly less than last year, which was an abnormal one, owing to the great influx of native refugees during the war.

As evidenced by the export and import returns, the trade of the ward is in a healthy condition.

Natives in this ward, as compared with others in Basutoland, do not appear anxious to avail themselves of the benefits of education. In proportion to the population of the ward an extremely small number of pupils was presented for examination at the different schools recently inspected by me.

It is rather a remarkable fact that, in a ward with an estimated native population of eighteen thousand persons, only one Christian marriage was solemnised during the year.

I have forwarded the usual statistics to be embodied in the Annual Report of the Assistant Commissioner, Leribe.

W. MANSEL,

Inspector, B.M.P.,

Officer in Charge.

ANNUAL REPORT—BEREA DISTRICT, 1902-1903.

The Report for the past year is very much the same as that for the year before. There has been no serious disturbance, but several of the usual minor disputes cropped up from time to time. Some of these appear to be now settled, such as that of Patso and his ground; the line between Makoali and Marthinus; and the quarrels between Peete and Lebese. Moeketse still causes a good deal of trouble, and has lately been to the Paramount Chief to reopen his grievances.

In April an agricultural show was held here, and may, under the circumstances, be considered to have been a great success.

The horses, cattle, sheep and goats shown were very good, especially the cattle. Very little grain, naturally, was brought in, but the little exhibited was exceptionally fine.

The crops are, I fear, to a great extent a failure this year, and many of the villages will suffer from a scarcity of grain. But I do not think that there will be anything in the nature of a famine.

The hut tax was again paid up well and quickly, the amount being more than £400 in excess of any other year.

There has been very little serious crime in the district during the year.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	6,979	0	0
Licences...	268	0	0
Fines	7	9	0
Fees	4	11	0
Miscellaneous	10	0	0
Total ...	£7,269	0	0

Number of huts upon which tax was paid, 6,700.

Amount of arrear tax paid, £417.

Licences.

General traders' licences	24
Hawkers' licences (paid)	24
„ „ (free)	6
Mill licence	1

Cases Tried.

The following is a return of cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Contravening pass regulations... ...	25
Theft	7
Culpable homicide	1
Assault	1
Civil cases	2
Other offences	3

Police.

The strength of the Police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-Inspector	1
Native sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ privates	27

Prices of Stock and Produce.

Horses...	£15 to £20
Oxen	£15 to £18
Cows	£12 to £15
Ewes	20*s.*
Wethers	30*s.*
Goats	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Mealies	25*s.* per bag.
Wheat...	20*s.* „
Kaffir corn	30*s.* „
Wool	5*d.*
Mohair	8*d.*
Forage	7*s.* per 100 lbs.
Oats	12*s.* per bag.
Hides	4*d.* per lb.

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received in gaol...	32
„ „ convicted ...	18
Number of prisoners discharged unconvicted	14
Number of prisoners in gaol on 30th June, 1903	7
Floggings inflicted	Nil.

Patrols.

Number of patrols	435
„ men employed	913
„ miles patrolled	7,524
„ arrests for contravening pass regulations	25

Passes Issued.

Mines...	706
Railways	584
Remounts	306
Agricultural	425
Other purposes	12,365

Lost or Stolen Stock.

——	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sheep ...	—	—	—	—	—
Goats ...	—	—	—	—	—

W. Boxwell,

Assistant Commissioner.

Berea,

30th June, 1903.

ANNUAL REPORT—MASERU DISTRICT, 1902-1903.

Nothing of political interest has occurred in this District during the past year, with the exception of the trial of Chief Joel for high treason. This Chief was tried by the Resident Commissioner and sentenced on the 17th July, 1902, to pay a fine of 500 head of cattle, and to be imprisoned for one year. Joel's conduct during imprisonment was exemplary, and after being imprisoned in the local gaol for nine months, the remainder of his sentence was remitted and he was released on 18th April, 1903.

The hut tax was paid up promptly, and shows an increase on last year's collection of £396.

Fair crops of wheat and oats were reaped in this district, and the wheat prospect for the ensuing season looks very promising.

The mealie and Kaffir corn crops, however, were almost a total failure, mainly due to the very early frosts in March, which destroyed a great deal of the standing crops.

The summer rains were very late and not up to the average. Rinderpest was stamped out in the early spring, and there has been very little sickness among cattle since then.

Pasturage, owing to the prolonged drought, is bad, and stock has consequently suffered a good deal from hunger.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

Revenue.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut Tax	10,849	10	0
Licences	384	2	9
Fines	119	0	0
Ferry Tolls	108	15	0
Fees of Court	15	10	6
Miscellaneous	173	19	9
Total	£11,650	18	0

Hut tax was paid on 10,442 huts.

Amount of arrear tax paid was £407 10*s.*

Licences.

General traders' licences	28
Hawkers' licences (paid)	121
„ „ (free)	3

Lost or Stolen Stock.

No lost stock was reported from neighbouring territories as traced into this district.

Patrols.

Number of patrols	229
„ men employed	339
„ miles covered	4,745
„ arrests for contravening pass regulations	36
Number of arrests for contravening liquor regulations	1

The following cases were tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Theft	8
Homicide	1
Contravening liquor regulations	8
„ pass „	13
Other offences	12
Civil cases	8

Passes Issued.

Johannesburg Mines	4,968
Kimberley „	1,339
Jagersfontein „	123
Cape Colony „	106
Farm and domestic service	2,464
Railways	1,168
Other purposes	10,526

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	96
„ „ convicted	59
„ „ discharged unconvicted	37
„ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1903 ...	19
Floggings inflicted	Nil

POLICE.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-inspector	...	...	...	...	1
European constable		...	...	...	1
Native	„	...	...	...	2
„	sergeant	...	...	...	1
„	corporals	...	...	...	2
„	privates...	...	...	...	56

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Cattle	...	...	...	...	£17 each.
Horses	...	...	...	...	£25 „
Sheep	...	...	...	...	25*s.* „
Goats	...	...	...	...	20*s.* „
Wheat	...	...	...	...	25*s.* per muid.
Mealies	...	...	...	...	25*s.* „ „
Kaffir corn		...	...	...	35*s.* „ „
Wool	...	...	...	...	4*d.* per lb.
Mohair	...	...	...	...	6*d.* „ „

J. P. MURRAY,

Acting-Assistant Commissioner.

Maseru,

30th June, 1903.

ANNUAL REPORT.—MAFETENG DISTRICT, 1902-1903.

In reviewing the events of the past twelve months, it is satisfactory to find that no matter of a political nature has in any way affected the peace and good order of this district. An old boundary dispute between Chiefs Mojela and Azariel has again been brought forward. This affects the division of rights in a fertile valley, where the people of both chiefs have cultivated lands. Owing to dense population and scarcity of arable land in this particular neighbourhood, the final settlement of their respective claims is a matter of vital importance to the persons interested, who have thus far shown great forbearance and a desire to have their boundary defined by a competent authority. The ground has been visited by the Resident Commissioner, and I have also been there with messengers of the Paramount Chief; we have collected evidence bearing on the matter, and the parties now await the Resident Commissioner's decision.

The Chief Leduma Poshuli, cousin to the present Paramount Chief, after a long illness, died in January. He has been succeeded by his eldest son, Ntja.

After the conclusion of the late war the rumour was current that His Majesty's Government intended altering the system of administration in this Territory, and many natives who were dissatisfied with judgments they had obtained in the Chief's Courts applied for permission to bring their cases to this district Court on appeal. They were told that no such change was contemplated. A few glaring cases of miscarriage of justice were investigated and put right, but other applicants were advised to take their cases on appeal to the higher native courts in the usual manner.

Chief Letsie, eldest son of the Paramount Chief, resides near this Magistracy in a new village which has been built on Dikhoele Nek. His health is not good and he is naturally indolent and disinclined to take an active part in matters of public interest, which may necessitate travelling in Basutoland or beyond. He has never been out of Basutoland and holds narrow views on most subjects; he has declined all invitations offered by the Government from time to time, to visit and pay homage to illustrious persons in neighbouring colonies, which his father and other Basuto Chiefs have gladly accepted.

The Chiefs continue to render me necessary assistance in district matters, and, almost without exception, their attitude and demeanour denote loyalty to His Majesty's Government.

The people are greatly interested in the formation of the National Council, which will assemble at Maseru for the first

time this month, and there is much conjecture respecting the action of the Council in national affairs.

The people have recovered from unsettled conditions, consequent on the late war, and although they have a yearning for the old "war prices" (which is perhaps only natural) still they are sensible enough to accept the present rate of wages offered to labourers, and they have freely gone to work in the neighbouring Colonies. Agents representing various mines, and Public Works Departments, have been constantly in Mafeteng collecting labour, and they have been singularly successful where the contract period is not more than three or four months. The Basuto are agriculturists, and greatly depend on crops for food; the men attend the ploughing and sowing and the women look after the growing crops; both join in harvesting. In consequence of this custom, the men do not like to be absent from their homes for long, and this is the reason why they have not gone in greater numbers to Transvaal mines. The period of service, six months, is too long for them. They can get the same rate of wages under easier conditions in the Cape and Orange River Colonies. Farm and domestic service in adjacent Colonies has drawn labour largely from this district, including numbers of native families who are wearied by the exactions of the Basuto Chiefs.

Some useful district works have been carried out during the last year in connection with the storage of water. On the Mafeteng Reserve a dam wall has been built below Cemetery vley, and a similar wall was constructed on Diphering vley, and yet another across a donga, that was draining water out of Tsakholo vley. Some fencing has been erected and preparations are in progress for tree planting at this Magistracy, and at Tsakholo, during next spring. Experiments in donga stopping have been tried by building stone walls across sluits in order by this means to prevent further denudation of soil.

A stable was built for the Government stud horse. It is a convenient building, standing in a good paddock.

The Medical Officer's quarters were repaired and some additions made.

A new cottage for the Deputy Post Master and Telegraphist is in course of construction, the old quarters being condemned. Some special work was done to improve the old road between Mafeteng and Diphering. The district roads were maintained in a fair state of repair suitable for ordinary waggon traffic, but there still remains a good deal that could be done to them in order to insure comfort in travelling.

The water supply for domestic purposes at this station is inadequate for the requirements of the population, and during dry seasons much inconvenience is experienced, as it is difficult to procure good water, and the natives, especially children, drink

impure water, and this causes enteric. I regret to say that an attempt to find water by boring at this Magistracy failed. A proposal to bring spring water into the village by means of a pipe service has been submitted to the Resident Commissioner and is under consideration.

Religious instruction and educational work proceeds with satisfactory results in all parts of the district, under direction of clergy of the English Church, the Paris Evangelical Mission Society, and the Roman Catholic Mission. There is also a small Mission of the Seventh Day Adventists, and of the Ethiopian Church.

I have furnished a separate report on 25 Government-aided schools I inspected during the year.

After extensive inoculation of cattle last year, Rinderpest gradually disappeared, and the district has been free from the disease ever since. A disease known as "Scab" was introduced into this territory during the late war by cast military horses, and rapidly spread, and infected thousands of horses, and in consequence of this native owners sustained heavy loss. A "wash" was given by the Government Veterinary Surgeon, and used for police horses with good results, and the prescription for the same was commended to the public.

There was a good average wheat crop last year, but very few fields of mealie and kaffir corn matured, owing to severe drought and early frost. The melon and pumpkin crop failed from the same causes. Some poor families may require assistance before next season's crops are harvested, but it does not appear likely that any wide-spread want or hunger will be felt, as most of the people have money, and other means of buying food. I suggest that Government should make an arrangement, at an early date, to enable people to buy mealie and kaffir corn seed, and also pumpkin seed, at reasonable prices.

One of the Arab stallions lately bought by Government is at this station, and will be used for stud purposes with a view to improving the breed of Basutoland ponies.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	9,478	0	0
Licences	326	0	0
Fines	73	15	0
Fees	14	5	6
Miscellaneous	475	3	0
	£10,367	3	6

Number of huts upon which tax was paid was 92,435.
Amount of arrear tax paid was £235.

Hut tax was very well paid and the total amount is more than usual, which is due to payments having been made by native refugees who have now left the district.

Licences.

General traders' licences	24
Hawkers' licences (paid)	86
„ „ (free)	2

Police.

The district detachment is efficient and consists of :—

Sub-inspector	1
European constable	1
Native officer	1
„ sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ privates	32
„ constable	1

The District Headquarters are at Mafeteng, and a few men are stationed on the frontier at each of the ports of entry from the Orange River Colony, viz., Sephapo's Gate, Van Rooyan's Gate, Tsupane Gate, and at Chief Mojela's on the Caledon River.

Patrols.

Number of patrols	301
„ men employed	750
„ miles patrolled	7,059
„ arrests	28
„ „ for contravening Pass Regulations... ..	3
„ „ for contravening Liquor Regulations... ...	13

Cases Tried.

Civil actions	—
Theft	6
Liquor	3
Other crimes	15

There has been very little serious crime in the district.

A Mosuto named Thokoa, who murdered another native named Jantji in Ladybrand district, was arrested in this district, and handed over to the Government of the Orange River Colony for trial.

Return of Lost Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses ...	36	3	33	3	33
Cattle ...	59	43	16	43	16
Sheep ...	287	96	191	96	191

Passes Issued.

Johannesburg Mines	207
Kimberley „	36
Jagersfontein „	1,666
Cape Colony. Coal mines	25
Vereeniging. „ „	49
Agricultural labour	7,159
Domestic service	473
Railways	431
Government departments	64
Other purposes	12,791
	22,901

Prices of Stock and Produce.

Wheat	20*s.*
Mealies	24*s.*
Kaffir corn	40*s.*
Barley	15*s.*
Oats	15*s.*
Oat Hay, per 100 bundles ...	30*s.*
Slaughter cattle	£12 to £15
Basuto ponies	£10 to £20
Sheep	12*s.* 6*d.*
Goats	10*s.* 6*d.*
Wool, per lb.	3*d.*
Mohair „	6*d.*

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol...	...	11
„	„	discharged unconvicted	...	—
„	„	convicted and sentenced	...	11
„	„	in gaol on 30th June, 1903	10

No floggings were inflicted.

Commercial.

Trade was prosperous and storekeepers did good business in ordinary retail trade and with horses and cattle.

Hawkers' Licences were granted to numbers of burghers of the Orange River Colony who came into this district to trade with the natives.

An Agricultural Show was held in May which was well patronised by Europeans and natives. The exhibits were numerous and good, and the show was a success. Prizes were awarded to successful competitors from money granted by Government augmented by local subscriptions.

Summary of Complaints.

Mokone, an ex-native constable of the Cape Police, complained of injuries sustained through act of soldiers at Springfontein, Orange River Colony, during the late war, which resulted in the loss of his hand. The Cape Colonial Government awarded Mokone £150 compensation, and he also received £23 8*s.* 10*d.* balance of pay due from the Cape Police.

T. P. Kennan,

Assistant Commissioner

Mafeteng,

30th June, 1903.

ANNUAL REPORT.—MOHALES HOEK DISTRICT, 1902-1903.

Since the last annual report little of importance has taken place in this District.

In Griffith's ward there has been constant friction between him and the followers of Mocheko. This was to be expected, for ties of clanship cannot be broken down in a moment. Time must be given for people to get over the distrust that always follows a change. Some of Mocheko's immediate followers resented the deposition of their chief and refused to work willingly with Griffith. It was felt some allowance should be made to them owing to their personal feelings in the matter, and great forbearance was shown to them by Griffith. However, as the political work of the District was being impeded, and as they repeatedly ignored the advice of this office, it was determined to bring matters to a head. Therefore, at the pitso held here in March, the ringleaders were brought before the Resident Commissioner and sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour for contempt of court. Since then matters have quieted down, and the only matters at issue have been referred by the Paramount Chief to a commission, consisting of representatives of this office, of himself, and Chief Griffith. This will go into all the questions arising from lands, and see that no injustice is done to the present holders. In the Bataung ward, on the conclusion of the war several stock thefts from the Orange River Colony were committed. However, the whole gang of thieves were captured and the stock recovered. In March a quarrel took place between the two Bataung Chiefs, Alfred Moletsanis and Mahlehle Monyahe, which resulted in one man receiving a wound from a revolver shot. The affair was fortunately at once stopped and the ringleaders arrested. On being brought to trial they were all found guilty and sentenced to heavy fines, with the exception of the one who fired the shot. He was sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour for one year.

The health of the district has been very satisfactory. Smallpox appeared in a very mild form at the beginning of the year, but by strict quarantining of infected villages and vaccination, the epidemic has been suppressed.

An investigation into the state of leprosy in this district was commenced. I am unable to furnish a complete report on the matter, but the number of cases so far discovered leads me to think that it is not very prevalent in this district.

In the absence of the Medical Officer I am unable to attach the usual report.

For the convenience of the people, a pack-post was started from Mafeteng to here, and has been found a great convenience.

It will be seen from the following returns, the revenue is slightly in excess of last year, due to the increase of hut tax.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

Revenue.

	£	s.	d
Hut Tax	9,592	10	0
Licences	178	10	0
Fines	173	12	6
Fees	10	2	0
Miscellaneous	284	6	3
Total ...	£10,239	0	9

Number of huts on which tax was paid was 9,341.

Amount of arrear tax paid was £294 10*s*.

Licences.

General traders' licences	17
Hawkers' licences (paid)	5
„ „ (free)	1
Dam licence	1

Return of Lost Stock.

Description.	Reported	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	15	7	8	7	8
Cattle	93	62	31	62	31
Sheep	224	128	96	128	96

Police.

Sub-inspector	1
European constable	1
Native officer	1
„ sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ privates	24

The police are well mounted and equipped.

Patrols.

Number of patrols	153
„ men employed	200
„ miles patrolled	7,816
Arrests for contravening pass regulations	27
Arrests for contravening liquor regulations	2
Arrests for contravening miscellaneous offences	4

Passes Issued.

Kimberley mines	412
Johannesburg „	199
Jagersfontein „	233
Cape Colony „	153
Railways...	51
Government work	6
Farm and domestic	6,591
Other purposes	4,762

The following is a return of cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Culpable homicide	3
Liquor Law	2
Theft	30
Infanticide	1
Pass regulations	32
Miscellaneous	8
Contempt of Court	8
Civil cases	3

No floggings were inflicted.

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol ...	69
„ „ sentenced	60
„ „ discharged unconvicted	2
„ „ removed to other gaols	9
„ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1903	12

PRICES OF PRODUCE AND STOCK.

Horses	£10 to £30
Cattle	£7 to £15
Sheep	10*s.* to 30*s.*
Mealies	20*s.* per bag.
Kaffir corn	30*s.* „
Wheat	22*s.* 6*d.* „

Education is being carried on by the different missionaries in the district, but progress is very slow, this being chiefly due to the true spirit of education being conspicuous by its absence among pupils and teachers.

The roads have been maintained in good order during the year.

J. W. BOWKER,

Assistant Commissioner

Mohales Hoek,
30th June, 1903.

ANNUAL REPORT.—QUTHING DISTRICT, 1902-1903.

So far as this district is concerned, the chief event of general interest during the past year, was the trial of Chief Nkwebe Letsie, principal chief of the district, before the Resident Commissioner's Court, assembled at Mohales Hoek in March last, on various charges of oppression, spoliation, and depriving minor chiefs of their rights.

The Paramount Chief, attended by councillors from all parts of the country, was present and took part in the proceedings, which extended over ten days.

The complaints which led to this trial had been accumulating for several years: and in most instances the court held that complainants had proved their cases, and that Nkwebe's conduct towards them was unjustifiable.

It is hoped that the results of this trial may be beneficial to both chiefs and people, as showing that public opinion in the country is opposed to tyrannical acts on the part of the chiefs, and that constitutional means exist for the repression of extortion, when it passes certain limits.

The oppression by the Basuto of alien clans living in the district, referred to in previous Annual Reports, appears for the present to have received a decided check.

The extraordinary fall of snow which took place in the winter of 1902, covering the ground in the lower parts of the district to a depth of two feet, which depth was much exceeded in the mountain area, caused heavy losses in live stock, besides some loss of life among the herd boys and others, who were buried alive in the remote cattle-posts. No such storm appears to have occurred here within the memory of man, and in the resulting frosts, when the thermometer went down to 9° Fahrenheit for several successive nights, most of the indigenous trees and shrubs were killed, and the Government plantations suffered severely.

Tree planting has been carried on to some extent during the year, principally in connection with experiments for checking the growth of sluits and gullies. Most of the Australian trees with the exception of Eucalyptus Pauciflora, have shown themselves unable to stand severe cold, and various species of pine, cypress, poplar, and willow, appear to be better suited to this climate.

A separate report on horse breeding was sent in, in November, 1902, and there is not much to add on this subject at present. It is to be regretted, in view of the expense to which the Government has gone in importing Arab stallions, that the Basuto cannot be induced to take better care of their mares when in foal. Upwards of twenty mares visited the stud-horse "Kohat"

during October and November, 1901, and from them it appears that only two living foals were dropped. The remainder of these mares either slipped their foals, or died from exposure, during the winter of 1902. Had their owners taken the trouble to shelter and feed them, much of this loss might have been avoided.

Rinderpest appeared again intermittently in one or two localities in the district, after it was supposed to be stamped out, but there has been nothing like a general spread of the disease, and the mortality has been slight. Latterly it has only been present among the cattle of one village near the Sebapala River. Inoculation, principally by means of serum, has been carried on whenever an outbreak has occurred, and generally with good temporary results. The immunity conferred by serum inoculation, does not appear to be so permanent as that resulting from the use of bile. The great advantage with serum, however, is that a supply can be kept on hand for immediate use, whereas, in the case of bile, it is necessary to wait until some cattle have died of the disease before material for inoculation is available and meanwhile other cattle are being infected.

The main roads are in passable order, but they require better engineering for reduction of gradients, widening of cuttings, &c. The waterworks at Moyeni camp have maintained their supply throughout the year. The pipes require renewing in places. New public offices, which were much needed, are just being completed.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	6,254	10	0
Licences	130	0	0
Fines	162	5	0
Ferry tolls	210	2	9
Fees of court	7	15	0
Miscellaneous	95	12	0
Total	£6,860	4	9

Number of huts on which tax was paid was 6,154.
Amount of arrear tax paid £386 10*s.*

LICENCES.

General traders' licences	14
Hawkers' licences (paid)	10
„ „ (free)	

Lost or Stolen Stock.

——	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered
Horses	23	5	18	5	18
Sheep	137	23	114	23	114
Goats	23	23	—	23	—

Passes Issued.

Farm or domestic service	1,873
Johannesburg Mines	17
Kimberley	9
Indwe Mines	47
Other purposes	6,448

Cases Tried.

The following is a return of cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court:—

Civil actions	5
Theft	3
Contravening Pass Regulations ...	39
„ Trading Regulations ...	5
„ Liquor „ ...	4
Obstructing Police	2
Extortion by illegal threat	1
Culpable homicide	1
Assault	1
Resisting arrest...	3
Attempting to escape	3
Rape	3
Conspiring to defeat the ends of justice	1
Causing death through negligence ...	1

Patrols.

Number of patrols	35
Number of men employed	78
Number of miles travelled	2,489
Number of arrests for contravening Pass Regulations.	31
Number of arrests for contravening Liquor Regulations.	1
Number of arrests for other offences	6

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	68
Number of prisoners convicted and sentenced ...	57
Number of prisoners discharged unconvicted ...	13
Number of prisoners in gaol on 30th June, 1903 ...	14
Floggings inflicted	Nil.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-inspector	1
Native sergeant	1
„ corporal	4
„ privates	23

Prices of Stock and Produce.

Horses	£20 to £25.
Oxen	£15 to £18.
Cows	£15 to £18.
Sheep	£1 to £1 5*s*.
Goats	12*s*. to 15*s*.
Wool	3*d*. per lb.
Mohair	6*d*. „
Wheat...	£1 per bag.
Mealies	£1 „
Kaffir corn	15*s*. to £1 10*s*.

Passes Issued.

Johannesburg Mines	17
Kimberley Mines	9
Indwe Mines	47
Farm or Domestic Service	1,873
Other purposes	5,448

S. Barrett,
Assistant Commissioner.

Quthing,
30th June, 1903.

ANNUAL REPORT—QACHA'S NEK DISTRICT, 1902–1903.

The past year has been very peaceful in the district, and consequently there is nothing of any importance to record. According to instructions I inspected nearly all the lepers (about 50) and reports of each individual case are registered for future reference. Some are in a deplorable condition, and it would be advisable to erect an asylum for them if all opposition could be removed.

The more enlightened of the chiefs and the people see that it is the only measure to adopt in certain localities, particularly at Raditnlares, where, under Chief Tsehahla, the disease is increasing rapidly.

Small-pox has been prevalent, but not in a very virulent form. Two deaths were reported. The infected areas were quarantined, and vaccination carried on.

An Agricultural Show was held on May 25th, and proved a great success; but hardly any cereals were exhibited owing to the failure of the crops caused by the early frosts during March.

Through the able manner in which all the chiefs carried out my instructions, it is gratifying to mention that rinderpest has not appeared, although it has run its course through all the other districts.

The following are the usual annual returns:—

Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	3,319	0	0
Licences	117	0	0
Fines	61	15	0
Fees	1	0	0
Miscellaneous	70	19	0
Total ...	£3,569	14	0

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 3,259.
Amount of arrear tax paid was £117 10*s*.

Licences.

General traders	3
Hawkers' Licences (paid)	87

The strength of the police detachment in this district is:—

Sub-inspector	1
Native corporal	1
„ privates	15

Patrols.

Number of patrols	224
„ men employed	301
„ miles patrolled	6,576
Arrests for contravening Pass Regulations.	1
Arrests for contravening Liquor Regulations.	1
Arrests for other offences	8

The following is a return of Cases Tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Concealment of birth	2
Theft	1
Culpable homicide	1
Escaping from custody	1
Contravening Pass Regulations ...	1
Contravening Border Regulations ...	1
Contravening Trade Regulations ...	3
Contravening Section VII.... ...	1
Civil cases	2
Other crimes	2

Passes Issued.

Johannesburg mines	7
Kimberley „	6
Jagersfontein „	8
Cape Colony „	21
Farm and domestic service	1,260
Other purposes	10,494

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	21
Convicted and sentenced	15
Discharged unconvicted	5
In gaol on 30th June, 1903	4
Floggings inflicted	Nil

Return of Lost or Stolen Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not recovered.
Horses	12	6	6	6	6
Cattle	15	—	15	—	15
Sheep	97	—	97	7	90

Prices of Stock and Produce.

Horses	... ...	£8 to £25.
Cattle	... ...	£8 to £15.
Sheep	... ...	12*s.* 6*d.* to 25*s.*
Goats	... ...	12*s.* 6*d.* to 25*s.*
Wool	... ...	3*d.* to 5*d.* per lb.
Mohair	... ...	7*d.* to 8*d.* „
Wheat	... ...	20*s* to 25*s.* per bag.
Mealies	... ...	20*s.* to 30*s.* „
Kaffir corn	... ...	20*s.* to 30*s.* „
Forage	... ...	20*s.* to 30*s.* per 100 bundles.

E. D'U. Blyth,

Assistant Commissioner.

Qacha's Nek,
30th June, 1903.

PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT, 1902–1903.

The subjoined table shows the number of cases treated at the Government Dispensaries and Hospitals during the year. The return also shows the number of vaccinations performed. Nearly all have been done with calf lymph, supplied by the Bacteriological Institute.

Station.	Out-patients.		In-patients.	Vaccinations.
	New Cases.	Subsequent attendances.		
Leribe	3,935	452	62	2,228
Maseru	6,741	1,906	176	4,846
Mafeteng	4,726	1 030	64	7,849
Mohales Hoek	1,171	274	19	7.862
Quthing	2,460	304	—	12,442
	19,033	3,966	321	35,227

These figures show a steady increase over those of previous years.

There has been a good deal of small-pox in some districts, and chicken-pox has also been very prevalent. It has been found better to enforce quarantine, and push vaccination, wherever either disease has occurred. The mortality in the former disease has been low, and in the latter practically nil.

Small-pox has in some instances been traced to infection brought from the Orange River Colony.

To prevent as far as possible infection being carried from Basutoland to neighbouring Territories, a certificate of vaccination is now required from each native seeking to obtain a pass.

The subject of leprosy has been investigated during the past year. Every known case of leprosy has been carefully recorded, and a register of such cases is kept at each station. Steps have been taken to ensure the periodical inspection of lepers. The results of the investigation are embodied in a separate report.

The health of the police has been uniformly good.

The sanitary condition of the prisons is excellent, and with the exception of a case of malignant disease at Quthing, there have been no cases of serious illness among any of the prisoners.

The increasing need for hospital accommodation, to which frequent attention has been drawn, will be partially met before the end of the next year by the opening of a new hospital at Maseru.

The hospital will contain 27 beds, and is being built and equipped according to the most approved modern methods. Similar institutions at other Stations would meet a greatly felt want.

An efficient water supply is now a very urgent question at most stations. A gradually decreasing rainfall, and an increasing demand for water, has rendered the supply, which was formerly sufficient, now totally inadequate for the needs of the inhabitants.

EDW. C. LONG,

Principal Medical Officer.

Maseru,

30th June, 1903.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT— LERIBE DISTRICT, 1902-1903.

The subjoined table shows the attendance at the dispensary during the year ending June 30th, 1903, the number of in-patients treated in the hospital, and the number of vaccinations performed in the district. The figures show a considerable increase over those of last year.

The work performed in the hospital has been the same as in former years. The accommodation is very limited and primitive, and only severe surgical or medical cases are taken in. Equipment for four more beds has been added, and with more accommodation the work could be considerably increased.

1902-1903.	Number.
Out-patients – Dispensary	3,935
Subsequent attendances	452
In-patients—Hospital	62
Vaccinations	2,228
Total	6,677

The general health of the district has been distinctly above the average during the year. I was absent on leave during the earlier months, but from the register it would seem that chest complaints were very prevalent during the winter.

During the summer months there was a marked absence of ophthalmia, and summer diarrhœa was much less prevalent this year than in any former one in my experience. This, I have no doubt, was due to the dry summer.

Small-pox broke out in the district in January, and since that time there have been four infected areas. The disease has been of a mild type, and by strict quarantine the disease has been localized. The following figures show the extent of the epidemic :—

Number of persons infected	645
„ deaths	24
„ persons still sick	30

Vaccination in and around the areas has been vigorously pushed. The number of persons vaccinated has been 2,228. Whooping-cough is epidemic in the district at the present time,

but only amongst children of two years and under. A severe epidemic of this disease passed over the district about three years ago, and it has never died out; and the present epidemic appears to be a recrudescence of the former one.

The health of the police has been good, and that of the prisoners distinctly above the average, which can be attributed to their better housing in the new gaol.

A water supply is urgently required for the camp, and there seems to be every prospect that before another year this fault will have been remedied.

The sanitary condition of the camp is good and calls for no comment.

A register of all lepers in the district is being compiled, and a more careful supervision over them is being exercised, which should go a good way to ameliorating the lot of these unfortunate people.

N. M. MacFarlane,
Medical Officer.

Leribe,
30th June, 1903.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT— MAFETENG DISTRICT, 1902–1903.

The number of out-patients seen at the Government hospital during the year was 5,756, a total made up of 4,726 seen for the first time, and 1,030 seen on subsequent occasions.

The number of vaccination certificates issued was 7,650.

The general health has been good, and with one exception there has been no disease of an epidemic nature.

There has been a marked decrease in the number of enteric cases, especially during the later months.

The police and prisoners have only attended the hospital for minor ailments, and whenever the gaol has been visited I have found it in a clean and sanitary condition.

Fifty-five lepers have come up to the hospital, and had their cases recorded on the forms provided. The list is not quite complete, as there are still a few whose condition does not permit of their being moved, and who will have to be visited before the required description can be obtained. A statement as to the increase or decrease in the number of lepers must be merely an opinion and of little or no value, owing to the great difficulty in obtaining complete and accurate returns.

About the beginning of the year a number of cases of sickness said to be small-pox, were reported from a number of villages in the district, especially in the south.

In consequence, I personally visited the villages Pakana, Dikhoele, Ntsonyana's, Thamae, Seiso, Tayane (twice), Sekoati, Pelesana, Motlaupa's, Phepeng, and Seihleko.

In my report of May 21st, I stated my reasons for considering this disease to be chicken-pox and not small-pox, and further experience has not caused me to alter my opinion.

I have not been able to accurately trace the source of the infection, but it seems probable that it was introduced into this district from the southern part of Basutoland.

The disease is not a serious one, and in no case, after my careful enquiry, have I been able to find a death which could be ascribed to it.

No case of true small-pox has come under my notice.

The large increase in the number of vaccination certificates issued is largely due to the number of natives leaving the country for work, no one being granted a pass till he can produce a certificate of having been recently vaccinated. The above mentioned epidemic has caused the chiefs and headmen to apply for vaccination, and in addition to those coming to the hospital, 1,199 have been vaccinated at their homes. 310 of Mafeteng and the immediate neighbourhood, have been done at the hospital. This number is not included in the 7,650, as certificates were not asked for.

R. KINGDON-ELLIS,
Medical Officer.

Mafeteng,
30th June, 1903.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT— QUTHING DISTRICT, 1902-1903.

The following figures show the amount of work done at the dispensary and the number of vaccinations performed during the past year :—

—	1901-1902.	1902-1903.
Out-patients	1,303	2,460
Subsequent attendances	290	304
Vaccinations performed	4,824	12,442
Total	6,417	15,206

Twenty-four operations needing anæsthetics were performed, and chloroform was administered nineteen times. Among the patients so operated on, twenty-one were discharged cured, one died, and two were sent away unrelieved.

I hope that at no very distant date it will be found possible to erect a small hospital here. I am convinced that much good could be done by these means, as cases are frequently brought long distances requiring hospital treatment, and I have been compelled to advise them to apply to the nearest hospital, owing to the lack of means at my disposal for effectively treating them here.

The health of the police detachment, and of the white population, has been good. The only infectious diseases which visited the former were whooping-cough, and chicken-pox in a very mild form. One prisoner died from malignant disease of the liver. During practically the whole of the past year the district has been visited by an unprecedentedly severe form of chicken-pox. I estimate that about 60 per cent. of the entire population have been attacked, though the deaths attributable to the disease only numbered about twelve all told. At first the natives thought the disease was small-pox, and consequently a larger number of vaccinations were performed this year than during either of the preceding years I have been stationed here. Reports have from time to time been received that natives coming from the Quthing district have conveyed small-pox infection into the Colony. Personally I have only come across

six cases of undoubted small-pox this year, each of them having been the only unvaccinated person in their village. Quarantine was strictly observed and no deaths occurred. Furthermore, all natives proceeding out of this district are carefully inspected as to vaccination marks, and any showing faint marks are revaccinated. Pulmonary tuberculosis appears to be on the increase, most of the cases I have seen belonging to the more civilised portion of the community.

ALEX. S. GARDINER,

Medical Officer.

Quthing,

30th June, 1903.

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Gt. Brit. Colonial office.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 444.

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BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1903-4

WITH

RETURNS OF THE CENSUS, 1904.

(For Report for 1902-3, *see* No. 408.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
February, 1905.

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No. 444.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1902-3, *see* No. 408.)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER to MR. LYTTELTON.

High Commissioner's Office,
Johannesburg,
21st November, 1904.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland, covering a Report on Basutoland Affairs, together with the Annual Reports of the Government Secretary, the District Officers, and the Medical Officers in Basutoland for the year ended the 30th June, 1904, and the Report of the Census taken in April, 1904.

I have, &c.,
C. H. RODWELL,
In the absence and by direction
of the High Commissioner.

---

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Resident Commissioner to High Commissioner.

Cape Town,
25th October, 1904.

My Lord,

I have the honour to forward my Report on Basutoland Affairs, together with the Annual Reports of the Government Secretary, the District Officers, and the Medical Officers, in Basutoland, for the year ended the 30th June, 1904, and the Report of the Census taken in April, 1904.

I have, &c.,

H. C. Sloley,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency,
The Right Honourable,
Viscount Milner, G.C.B., G.C.M.G.,
High Commissioner,
South Africa.

ANNUAL REPORT—BASUTOLAND. FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1904.

My continued absence from Basutoland, occasioned by my duties as a member of the South African Inter-Colonial Commission on Native Affairs, has caused some delay in the despatch of these Reports, and for the same reason I am unable to report at any length upon the work of the past year, or to add materially to the information contained in the Reports which I enclose.

The revenue of the country, as shown in the Government Secretary's Report, has amounted to £106,794, which exceeds the revenue of any previous year. The collection of hut tax may be regarded as a fairly complete one, though it is doubtless not absolutely so.

The Census taken in April will be of assistance in this matter by rendering it possible to form fresh and up-to-date conclusions as to the distribution of population, and the proportions of male and female adults. Under present conditions and regulations, the number of married women is of course the correct basis upon which to calculate the actual amount of tax which should be paid. The Census returns (of which a copy is appended to these Reports) show the number of 98,387 adult females, which includes every woman and girl above the age of 15, but naturally a large proportion of these are unmarried. Comparison of population and hut tax in the various districts, and sub-districts, reveals certain discrepancies, and suggests that the present system of collecting tax is not equally effective in all localities. I propose to make some closer investigation of this subject, but I consider generally that the measures hitherto adopted for the collection of this branch of the revenue are working satisfactorily. In some districts a slight shortfall of tax is reported, which may be attributable to the departure of native refugees, or to some other more obscure cause.

The amount derived from Customs (£35,882) has exceeded my expectations, and has contributed appreciably to the excess of revenue over expenditure ; the amount of £34,401, has been added to the balance, which will now permit any necessary advance being made for railway construction to Maseru. This position having been attained, it may be desirable (as has been suggested in other despatches) to arrange for more liberal expenditure on public works, and other useful objects.

But satisfactory as the present position is, there is an element of uncertainty as to the realization of a revenue largely dependent upon the success or failure of a season's crops. In the year under report, the wheat crop has been a failure, and the value of exports has fallen to one half the amount shown in returns for the previous year, and the effect of this may be felt in the

Hut tax was paid on 58,874 huts, while arrear hut tax collected amounted to £2,263 as against £3,089 last year.

Trade and Agriculture.

The imports into the country for the year show a very large increase on last year, but must not be taken to mean quite what the figures would show. Hitherto the returns have only shown *dutiable* articles imported. This year *all* imports are shown. Further, corn, grain and meal, to the value of nearly £25,000, was imported to meet a scarcity, and it is hoped this will not be necessary again this year.

I have no figures at my disposal to enable me to separate British from foreign imports, but I think that British imports would amount to about 87½ per cent. and foreign imports to 12½ per cent.

With regard to exports there has been a very serious falling off. The exports being entirely wool, stock, and grain, are of course dependent on regular rains, and these have for two years past been wanting.

The wheat crop, due at Christmas, was practically a total failure, though the rains in the autumn saved the mealie and Kaffir corn crop. This, however, had not yet been reaped at 30th June, and consequently the amount of mealies exported for the year appears small.

I attach returns showing details of imports and exports :—

Imports.

Articles.	1902–1903.	1903–1904.
	£	£
Agricultural implements	—	4,390
Apparel, slops, &c.	11,635	26,690
Corn, grain, and meal	—	24,630
Cotton manufactures	43,642	50,030
Haberdashery, &c.	30,178	26,540
Hardware	—	17,080
Provisions, oilman's stores	10,640	23,840
Woollen manufactures...	57,974	80,580
Other goods	36,950	44,360
Total	£191,019	298,140

EXPORTS.

Articles.	Year ended 30th June, 1903.				Year ended 30th June, 1904.			
	Quantity.	Value.			Quantity.	Value.		
	Lbs.	£	s.	d.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Wheat	23,255,000	81,847	0	9	3,228,200	13,765	0	0
Mealies	12,158,800	55,014	14	6	2,461,600	10,106	0	0
Kaffir corn ...	5,171,200	22,888	7	0	356,400	2,444	0	0
Meal (wheaten) ...	1,250,200	7,574	10	6	139,400	900	0	0
Mealie meal ...	26,400	101	0	0	38,200	287	0	0
Wool	2,859,671	45,140	4	7	2,848,760	49,353	0	0
Mohair	396,710	11,454	11	10	399,577	12,386	0	0
	No.				No.			
Horses	81	1,227	10	0	347	5,496	0	0
Cattle	1,241	17,571	11	0	1,284	16,740	0	0
Miscellaneous ...	—	16,107	13	6	—	15,580	0	0
Total ...	—	258,927	3	8	—	127,057	0	0

COMPARATIVE RETURN of BASUTOLAND IMPORTS and EXPORTS for five years ending 30th June, 1904.

Year.	Value of Imports.			Value of Export		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1899–1900	85,527	0	0	133,864	18	5
1900–1901	145,474	0	0	361,646	15	7
1901–1902	230,680	0	0	166,894	3	7
1902–1903	191,019	0	0	258,927	3	8
1903–1904	298,140	0	0	127,057	0	0

LICENCES.

The following licences were issued during the year :—

General trader	161
Hawkers (paid)	463
„ (free)	28
Mill licences	1
Labour Agents	77

PASSES.

Passes have again increased in numbers this year, the number of workers being larger, and the proportion of "labourers" to "visitors" being enormously increased.

Labourers last year were approximately as 54 labourers to 78 visitors, while this year they are as 98 to 57.

A closer count has been kept of the destinations of labourers, and it would appear from it that a larger number of natives have this year gone to work in the Johannesburg mines.

The large item "Miscellaneous Work" is swelled by the great number of men who took passes for work, but did not specify *what* work.

It is common for the Basuto to travel about till they find some work which they like; though many of these men doubtless went to the mines, it is manifestly impossible to classify them.

The total figures for passes are :—

For work	98,022
For visiting, &c.	56,618
Total	154,640

I, however, give the return below in fuller detail.

Passes.

Districts.	Visiting in O. R. C.	Visiting in C. C.	Visiting in Natal.	Kimberley Mines.	Johannesburg Mines.	Indwe Coal Mines.	O. B. C. Mines.	Jagersfontein Mines.	Railway Construction.	Farm and Domestic.	Miscellaneous Work.
Leribe ...	14,613	93	—	39	4,596	13	—	—	3,847	3,028	23,205
Berea	6,078	122	—	320	1,958	—	—	—	5,814	3,352	2,050
Maseru ...	11,464	426	—	541	2,361	15	—	—	1,639	667	5,208
Mafeteng ...	11,473	914	—	407	127	11	2,116	—	566	10,440	3,727
Mohales Hoek	1,184	1,674	—	477	253	19	32	750	4	3,907	2,647
Quthing ...	392	5,233	—	6	68	—	—	33	91	1,799	1,144
Qacha's Nek ...	61	2,790	101	16	17	39	—	—	161	474	10,028
Total ...	45,265	11,252	101	1,806	9,380	97	2,148	783	12,132	23,667	48,009

Deposit and Remittance.

I received through the Transvaal Native Affairs Department, for distribution during the year, £6,982 11*s.* 0*d.*, sent by labourers in Johannesburg to their friends and relatives in Basutoland.

District.	Amount.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Leribe	3,388	6	0
Berea	793	2	3
Maseru	1,544	1	9
Mafeteng	837	2	6
Mohales Hoek	231	18	6
Quthing	183	10	0
Qacha's Nek	4	10	0
Total	6,982	11	0

Education.

I attach a return which shows this year's education figures as compared with last year.

Education Return.

—	1902–1903.	1903–1904.
Schools	206	217
Scholars	14,171	13,660
Mean average attendance	10,024	10,401
Expenditure	£6,660 17*s.* 7*d.*	£6,312 10*s.* 6*d.*

It will be seen that while the total number of scholars on the books has decreased, the average attendance has slightly increased, showing, I think, that hard times have had their effect on the idle ones, who have now to work at home instead of attending school in a more or less desultory manner.

Police and Judicial.

The police have done much good work during the year. They are all well equipped, armed, and serviceably mounted.

Judicial Cases.

The following judicial cases were heard in the courts of the Assistant Commissioners :—

Culpable homicide	6
Theft	81
Pass regulations	141
Trading regulations	70
Resisting police	3
Assault	22
Other crimes	79
Civil actions	14

Police State.

European officers	14
„ constables	4
Native officers	4
„ sergeants	6
„ corporals	10
„ privates	230
„ constables	4

Police Patrol Return.

Number of patrols	2,115
„ men on patrol	2,390
„ miles patrolled	58,152
Arrests under liquor laws	64
„ „ pass laws	307
Other offences	133

Gaol Return.

Prisoners received into gaol	371
„ convicted	272
„ discharged unconvicted ...	88
„ in gaol 30th June, 1904 ...	113
Floggings inflicted	3

coming year. There is also reason to believe that native labourers are beginning to spend a larger proportion of their earnings outside Basutoland, which may have the effect of diminishing the volume of trade, and the Customs revenue.

The Basuto in certain districts during the year have been so short of food that the import of foodstuffs to the value of £25,000 is recorded. This value probably does not fully represent the retail cost of these supplies to the natives, and the return is certainly exclusive of their own purchases from store-keepers and others outside the Basutoland border. The fact that this grain had to be brought into Basutoland is eloquent as to the failure of crops during the seasons immediately past.

The following are the Legislative Proclamations issued during the year :—

No. 1 of 1904.—Regulating the importation of live-stock, &c., from Natal into Basutoland.

No. 3 of 1904.—Giving effect within Basutoland to the "Foreign Marriages Order in Council of 1903"

No. 4 of 1904.—Providing for uniformity and accuracy of Weights and Measures in use in the Territory of Basutoland.

No. 5 of 1904.—Providing for working of Wireless Telegraphy within Basutoland.

No. 9 of 1904.—Providing for the taking of a Census within Basutoland.

The arrangements made for the Census, and the manner in which it was taken in Basutoland, have been reported upon. The enumeration of the people was accomplished without difficulty, and with the willing co-operation of the Chiefs and Headmen, and through the agency of native enumerators, who performed their duties with intelligence and zeal. The Directors of the Missions placed at the disposal of the Government for this purpose the services of a number of native school teachers, whose education enabled them to render valuable assistance. There is every reason to think that the figures obtained as the result of this Census are substantially correct. The native population of Basutoland is ascertained to be 347,731, as against 218,324, in 1891, or an increase of slightly under 60 per cent. in 13 years. As a question of vital statistics, a comparison of this increase with that of other populations would be interesting.

An inspection of a portion of the Basutoland schools was made during the year by Mr. Davidson, whose services were available by courtesy of the Superintendent of Education in the Cape Colony. Mr. Davidson, whose report has been submitted, while finding the Basutoland schools on the whole in a satisfactory condition, makes some useful suggestions as to possible improvement and greater efficiency. The great want appears to be a

larger number of fully trained and competent native teachers, and the services of such men probably can be secured only by some substantial addition to the pay at present given to native schoolmasters. This question, and others connected with the system of education, are receiving consideration.

The Industrial School, for which the sum of £4,564 has been collected by the Chief Lerothodi, has now been commenced—a Director has been appointed, plans drawn up, and the buildings are rising from the ground. In the construction of these buildings, the already trained native workmen are being employed where it is possible, as I hope that this may have the effect of stimulating the interest which the natives take in trades and industrial pursuits. The collection made by Lerothodi for this industrial school is very welcome evidence that such training is valued by the Basuto Chiefs, for the young natives themselves do not appear to have any particular desire for instruction in handicrafts, but are more attracted by the literary side of education, and a little subsequent dabbling in native journalism, and politics. Among the events of the year has to be recorded the appearance of the first numbers of an independent native newspaper, the "Naledi ea Lesotho," or "Star of Basutoland." The articles and letters in this journal vary much in tone and quality, but it is evident that there is a keen feeling of satisfaction at the opportunity which the paper affords to the Basuto for the free expression of their opinions on the questions which are occupying the attention of the native mind.

The daily average number of scholars is 10,401, showing that the increasing desire for some form of education exhibited by a section of the people is by no means universally felt, and that the bulk of the young people are growing up without education as we understand it. But it would be an error to describe as ignorance the condition of the natives who do not pass through the schools, who, as a rule, are capable of displaying an acute intelligence and a thoughtfulness which have nothing in common with scholastic training, but are acquired by the primitive methods of keen observation, and a perpetual intercourse of man with man. Desirable as it is that the school training should be made as efficient and suitable as possible, it has to be realised that the effect of mere book learning on the native mind and character will probably be almost insignificant as compared with the result of the great changes that are rapidly being brought about by contact everywhere with European civilization. This is a process that should be carefully watched, for it appears to be an unfortunate fact that the first phase at least of this alteration of character is of the nature of moral deterioration.

I alluded in my last Annual Report to the new hospital at Maseru—this institution has since been opened, and so far has been most useful and successful. I propose to ask for authority to incur expenditure for the establishment of another of these hospitals in some suitable locality. The medical officer in Leribe

reports a want of more accommodation, and a more efficient nursing staff in that district.

The judicial statistics show that the Assistant Commissioners and the police have been active in dealing with crimes and offences. No less than 64 arrests were made for contravention of the regulations against the introduction of intoxicating liquor into Basutoland. Fifty-seven of these arrests were made in the southern districts of the Territory, a disproportion largely due to the facilities with which natives can obtain drink in the northern portion of the Cape Colony. In a very large number of cases the drink is actually bought and passed to the native by a white or half-caste smuggler. As illustrating the large scale upon which these purchases are made, I would mention that the police in the Mohales Hoek district on one occasion intercepted and captured a party bringing 100 bottles of brandy from the Lady Grey district of the Cape Colony. There has also been an increase in the quantity of liquor smuggled from the south-eastern portion of the Orange River Colony.

Through the instrumentality of the Chiefs there has been no difficulty in arresting and bringing to justice every known criminal. The Assistant Commissioner of Maseru reports the detection and arrest of a gang of thieves who have been for some months stealing stock from both sides of the border of the Orange River Colony.

The internal history of Basutoland during the year has happily been fairly peaceful. The numerous outstanding disputes as to land questions, and boundaries, which have to be mentioned in each Annual Report, remain unsettled. The Paramount Chief shows with advancing age and failing health an inability or an indisposition to bring about final settlements of these questions, which perpetuate a most unsatisfactory situation. I have under consideration, as I have reported, certain proposals for dealing with cases of this nature. It is not necessary to specify all these troublesome questions as to disputed land rights and chieftainships. They are principally of local interest, and are alluded to in the reports of the District Officers. In a few cases in which they have culminated in brawls or bloodshed, the principal offenders, including several minor Chiefs, have been arrested and sentenced to imprisonment. The moderation and self restraint of some of the Chiefs concerned, and the commonsense shown by councillors and the older men have, as usual, been conspicuous.

Of greater general interest are the occasional reports of unrest among the Basuto, and the scares caused by rumoured rebellious intentions on the part of the tribe. It is not easy to follow with certainty the origin and progress of such reports which, having once obtained a measure of credence, appear to circulate rapidly among Europeans, gathering fulness of circumstantial detail by general repetition and notice in the press, and finally react upon the natives, producing a feeling of uneasiness and distrust which,

to those unacquainted with the real state of affairs, is regarded as confirmatory evidence as to warlike intentions.

The rumours which were current at Christmas and New Year (the busy season of the scaremonger) had some such history as I have described, and unfortunately synchronised with the appearance of a prophetess, a sickly young woman, to whose diseased imagination visions of bodies of armed men had appeared. The opportunity was too good to be lost—the armed men were evidently the soldiers whose coming invasion of Basutoland was just then the talk of the border. The relatives of the woman removed her to a convenient locality where (for a consideration) she could be consulted by those who wished to emerge from the coming strife with life and loot. The credulous (and there were few who were not so) flocked to her with eagerness, with the result that for a short time no small advantage accrued to the fortunate family. It became necessary to bring the woman to Maseru, where she was placed under medical observation—the men who had exploited her were punished, and the excitement subsided.

Similar rumours as to approaching trouble in Basutoland were in the air at the time when it became necessary to intimate formally to the Paramount Chief, and the tribe, that the time had arrived for the construction of the railway to Maseru. There is no doubt that at this time some irresponsible young men did indulge in swaggering boasts as to their desire to oppose the railway scheme, but no sympathy with such ideas was expressed by Lerothodi, or any Chief of importance. The work of railway construction has now commenced, and the necessary land for the purpose has been set apart. The completion of the Maseru line, including the bridge across the Caledon River, may be hoped for in 1905.

I have been able to secure the services of a Civil engineer, whose appointment as inspector of works will be most useful in regard to roads and public buildings within the Territory.

The roads have for many years been kept in passable order, notwithstanding natural difficulties. By the employment of a professional engineer as adviser on road construction, and by some alteration in the system of agreement with contractors, I hope that some further improvement in the condition of the main road at least, may be effected. Plans as to necessary public works include the construction of three new police stations, additions to gaol accommodation at several magistracies, new quarters and offices for certain officers, and additions to the water supply at Maseru, and other places.

Observations connected with the general Geodetic Survey of South Africa have been taken in Basutoland by parties of Imperial officers, and two lines of points have been selected and beaconed.

A successful agricultural show was held at Maseru—the natives appearing to show an increasing appreciation of, and interest in, these and other schemes for the betterment of the agricultural conditions of the country. There are now at Government stations nine pure Arab stallions, some of which are of exceptionally good quality, and the presence of these fine animals cannot fail to improve the Basuto ponies, and to raise the standard of native horse-breeding.

A more accurate record has been kept of passes issued to natives to leave the country, and a closer classification of their destinations and occupations has been attempted. The detailed return is given in the report of the Government Secretary. The number of passes given to people to go out to work, or for the purpose of seeking work, is (as far as the Basuto are concerned) a refutation of the theory that the natives are incorrigibly indolent, though there is no doubt that, with the exception of a small percentage, they have not yet acquired the habit of continuous daily industry all the year round. I estimate that the average number of able-bodied men who are at one time outside the country working may be 25,000.

I have found little to report that is novel or of striking interest, and this is in itself satisfactory. The material welfare of the people, and such moral and industrial progress as may be hoped for, are best assured by a slow advance undisturbed by political crises. The Census returns show a rather startling increase in numbers, and there is no doubt that year by year the Basuto must become, with other natives, of more industrial and economic importance in South Africa. The system of Chieftainship under which they live occasionally presses somewhat harshly and arbitrarily upon individuals, but it keeps the mass of the people in a state of almost perfect discipline and control. The Paramount and other Chiefs have behaved as a rule with moderation and wisdom, and have been of good service when called upon to aid in the maintenance of law and order.

I have again to record the satisfactory services of the Government Secretary, and other officers of the Government. During my frequent and continuous absences, much additional work and responsibility was thrown upon Mr. Woughton, who acted for me with energy and discretion. The Service has sustained a regrettable loss in the death of Dr. Gardiner, the Medical Officer of the Quthing District.

H. C. SLOLEY,
Resident Commissioner.

Maseru,
Basutoland,
31st October, 1904.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARY, 1903-1904.

Government Secretary's Office.
Maseru,
30th July, 1904.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward you herewith the usual Annual Reports from the Assistant Commissioners, Basutoland, for the year ending 30th June, 1904, and to attach the following statistical returns compiled from these and other sources.

The year may be considered an average one. Drought before Christmas was followed by a fine autumn, and though the wheat crop was a failure, the other grain crops were more successful.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year ending 30th June, 1904, was:—

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	60,528	10	0
Post Office	2,982	13	8
Licences	3,726	12	7
Fees of court or office... ...	133	1	8
Miscellaneous	3,541	17	3
Customs	35,882	0	6
Total ...	£106,794	15	8

The expenditure for the same period amounted to £72,393 18*s.* 4*d.*

A comparative statement is appended showing the revenue and expenditure for the last five years:—

Year ending	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
30th June, 1900	69,769	16	4	59,492	7	6
30th June, 1901	74,890	19	1	55,485	14	5
30th June, 1902	104,284	1	4	64,809	18	1
30th June, 1903	101,399	4	2	76,271	12	11
30th June, 1904	106,794	15	8	72,393	18	4

ANNUAL REPORT—BUTHA BUTHE DISTRICT, 1903–1904.

The political situation at Tsimi has not changed since last year. The tension between Chief Joel and his half-brother Hlasoa is still very acute. This is disappointing, as it was hoped that the bad feeling would gradually die out. Just now they are both laying their complaints before the Paramount Chief at Matsieng.

In the Makhoakoa clan Chief Letsika has his usual quarrels with his sons and brothers. Letsika is a man of very feeble character, and his authority in the ward becomes less and less every year.

Perhaps the most important matter there, just now, is a dispute about a large strip of country north of the Merarаneng Spruit, in the Mechachaneng Valley. Until somewhat recently only Letsika and his eldest son Thaka Banna disputed the chieftainship of this ground, but Chief Jonathan Molapo has now come forward claiming it as his. This increases the complication and renders it more difficult to administer that portion of the ward.

Two rather serious breaches of the peace occurred in the Makhoakoene within a few days of each other. The first was between two petty Chiefs, Dijo and Ramohapi, and their respective adherents. Both parties took up firearms and a number of shots were fired. No one was, however, hurt. It was not an important affair, being simply a drunken brawl. The matter was dealt with very promptly by the Assistant Commissioner, Leribe.

Dijo and Ramohapi, with all those who took part in the disturbance, were sentenced to imprisonment, and all the rifles used were confiscated.

The other case was of a more serious nature, being the result of a long standing quarrel between Chief Letsika and his nephew Lebusetsa Lekopa. In the fighting that ensued Tumani, the favourite son of Letsika, was so badly shot in the leg that it had to be amputated. I will not refer further to this now, as the case is sub-judice.

A very satisfactory feature is the almost total absence of stock thefts, by natives of this ward, from farmers in the Orange River Colony. It has become recognised that when prompt reports are made it is almost impossible for such thieves to escape.

The collection of hut tax has been exceptionally good. The number of huts on which tax is paid has, during the last few years, increased by over 1,200.

During the year waterworks have been constructed and a plentiful supply of water has been led to the camp from a neighbouring spring. This has satisfied a long-felt want.

Considerable improvements are being made to the waggon roads in the ward. Several well-equipped parties are now working on them.

An excellent Arab stud horse was received here during the year for Government. Natives can obtain its services free of charge; this should materially improve the breed of horses in the ward.

The general absence of serious or premeditated crime in such a thickly populated country is rather remarkable.

I have forwarded the usual annual statistics to be embodied in the Annual Report of the Assistant Commissioner of Leribe.

W. D. P. MANSEL,

Inspector, B. M. P.,

Officer in Charge.

Butha Buthe,

30th June, 1904.

ANNUAL REPORT—BEREA DISTRICT, 1903-1904.

From the middle of June, 1903, to the beginning of February, 1904, I was away on leave, and Mr. Blyth was in charge.

The district during the past year has been free from any very serious disturbance; indeed, there were particularly few disputes. As usual Moeketse is the one who has been most heard of. In August he and young Koali fought about some lands, and several people were wounded. Moeketse and Koali were imprisoned and some of their people fined.

Extensive and systematic horse thefts were lately brought to light, in which several men of this district were concerned. These men were arrested and sent to Maseru for trial.

Beyond this the district has been free from crime to a very great extent, only two other serious cases having taken place.

In February last the Resident Commissioner came here with the Paramount Chief and other Chiefs. Young Masupha was shown to the people and installed as his grandfather's heir. Koali and Sauer were also given their wards.

I regret to report that the hut tax this year has fallen short by £56 0*s.* of last year's total. I do not consider that this deficit can be put down to the fact that the native refugees have left the country. I would not put down the deficit from that cause at more than £250 to £300; and the natural increase of the tax should be some £300 to £400.

I subjoin the usual annual returns:—

Revenue.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax	6,415	10	0
Licences...	262	10	0
Fines	75	0	10
Fees	1	10	0
Miscellaneous	232	5	3
Total ...	£6,986	16	1

Amount of arrear tax paid, £224 10*s.*

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 6,322.

Licences.

General traders' licences	24
Paid hawkers'	16
Free hawkers'	4
Mill licence	1
Labour agents'	9

Passes.

Visiting Cape Colony	122
Visiting Orange River Colony ...	6,078
Kimberley mines	320
Railway construction	5,814
Johannesburg mines	1,958
Agriculture	3,352
Miscellaneous work	2,050
	19,694

Remittances.

Remittances to natives from Johannesburg, £793 2*s.* 3*d.*

Police.

The following are the police of all ranks at this station :—

Sub-Inspector	1
Sergeant	1
Corporal	1
Lance corporal	1
1st class privates	5
2nd „ „	20
	29

Patrols.

The following are the patrols performed by my police during the year :—

Number of patrols	351
„ men employed	701
„ miles patrolled	5,670
„ arrests (*a*)	5
„ „ (*b*)	28
„ „ (*c*)	0

Criminal and Civil Cases Tried.

Contravening pass laws	13
„ liquor laws	1
„ trading laws	4
Attempted rape	1
Culpable homicide	1
Other cases	5
	—
	25
	—
Civil cases	2
	=

Gaol Return.

In gaol July 1st, 1903	7
Received into gaol during year ...	12
Sentenced	12
Discharged	14
In gaol June 30th, 1904	5

Lost Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced to Basuto land.	Not traced to Basuto-land.	Recovered.	Not recovered
Horses	4	4	—	4	—
Cattle	—	—	—	—	—
Sheep and goats	110	—	110	—	110

AVERAGE PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Cattle	£8 to £12
Horses...	£15 to £20
Sheep	30*s.*
Goats	12*s.*
Wheat (per bag)	25*s.*
Mealies „	8*s.*
Kaffir corn „	8*s.*
Wool (per lb.)...	1½*d.* to 3*d.*
Mohair „	5*d.*

POPULATION.

According to the last Census the population was :—

Whites	96
Natives	40,289

W. BOXWELL,

Assistant Commissioner.

Lost Stock Return.

The following is a Return of the Lost Stock reported :—

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not re-covered.
Horses	176	40	136	63	113
Cattle	126	9	117	9	117
Sheep and goats	1,226	628	598	345	881

Postal and Telegraph.

I have to thank the Postmaster-General, Cape Town, for his courtesy in supplying me with the following statistics of the Postal and Telegraph service.

Correspondence.

Letters posted in Basutoland	329,435
„ received in Basutoland	409,513

Money Orders.

		£	*s.*	*d.*
Issued	5,268—Value	13,568	4	9
Paid	2,330 „	8,588	10	2

Telegraphs.

The Revenue from this source collected in the Territory amounted to £971 1*s.* 1*d.*

Savings Bank.

		£	*s.*	*d.*
Deposits ...	239—Value ...	2,443	10	0
Withdrawals ...	159 „ ...	3,469	4	9

The Census of Basutoland held on the 17th April, 1904, showed the population of the country to be 348,848 souls.

I append two tables, from which it will be seen that while the sexes among the Basuto are practically equal in numbers in childhood, there is a great disparity between them in later years. This may, I think, be almost entirely attributed to the fact that adult males travel and go out to work.

I think the constant number of such absentee males may be taken to be between 20,000 and 25,000.

Comparison of Native Census Returns for 1891 and 1904.

Census Year.	Natives under 15.		Natives 15 and over.		Natives.		Grand Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1891	57,126	54,998	48,080	58,120	105,205	113,119	218,324
1904	87,915	86,128	75,301	98,387	163,216	184,515	347,731

Comparison of European and Coloured Persons in Census Returns for 1891 and 1904.

Census Year.	White.		Coloured.		Total. Coloured.	Total White.
	M.	F.	M.	F.		
1891	343	235	103	77	180	578
1904	520	375	137	85	222	895

I have, &c.,

L. Wroughton,
Government Secretary.

Maseru,
Basutoland,
31st August, 1904.

ANNUAL REPORT—LERIBE DISTRICT, 1903-1904.

There is little change to record in the political situation of this district since last year. There have, however, been two disturbances at Makhoakhoeng, in which guns have been used. These have been dealt with and the rioters punished by fines and imprisonment. A "modus vivendi" has also been brought about by disturbing elements being withdrawn from the disputed country east of Merananeng, and especially by the public recognition by the Paramount Chief of Thakabanna as Letsika's heir.

There has been a period of scarcity in the district owing to the failure of last year's crops. A plentiful harvest has now, however, been reaped, and there is every indication of a good one next year.

The water famine from which this Magistracy has suffered for many years has now happily come to an end, and a sufficient supply is being led from Sebotoane Mountain.

Efforts are being made to put the roads in a thoroughly efficient state. This cannot fail to have a good effect on the trade and general well-being of the district.

I attach the Report of the Officer in Charge at Butha Buthe.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	15,498	0	0
Licences	585	0	0
Judicial fines	125	17	6
Fees	11	16	0
Miscellaneous	561	9	6
Total	£16,782	3	0

Hut tax was paid on 14,722 huts.

Amount of arrear tax paid was £997 0*s.* 0*d.*

Licences.

General traders' licences	49
Hawkers' licences (paid)	81
„ „ (free)	7
Labour Agents' licences	8

Passes Issued.

Visiting in O. R. C.	14,613
Visiting in Cape Colony	93
Kimberley mines	39
Johannesburg mines	4,596
Railway construction	3,847
Agricultural work	3,028
Indwe coal mines	13
Miscellaneous work	23,205
	49,434

Remittances from Johannesburg.

499 remittances ... ... £3,388 6*s.* 0*d.*

Police.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :--

Inspector	1
Sub-inspectors	2
European constable	1
Native officer	1
Sergeant	1
Corporals	3
Privates	50

Patrols.

Number of patrols	154
„ men employed	345
„ miles travelled	7,098
„ arrests	245

Arrests.

(*a*)	Contravening liquor regulations ...	1
(*b*)	„ pass „ ...	179
(*c*)	Other offences...	65

Cases Tried.

The following cases were tried in the Assistant Commissioner's court :—

Culpable homicide	3
Creating a breach of the peace	9
Theft	12
Assault	6
Fraud	9
Contravening pass regulations	76
„ customs „	8
„ trading „	2
„ reserve „	1
Trespass...	1
Contempt of court	3
Burglary and theft	1
Civil cases	2

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol		72
„ „	convicted and sentenced ...	59
„ „	discharged unconvicted ...	9
„ „	in gaol on 30th June, 1904...	22

Lost or Stolen Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	14	3	11	3	11
Sheep and goats	163	1	162	—	163
Cattle	5	2	3	2	3

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Mealies, per muid	15*s.*
Wheat, per bag	25*s.*
Kaffir corn, per bag	25*s.*
Oat hay, per 100 bundles ...	20*s.*
Ponies	£15
Cattle	£12 10*s.*
Sheep	20*s.*
Wool, per lb.	3*d.*
Mohair, per lb.	6*d.*

POPULATION.

Natives	81,986
Europeans	134

J. C. MACGREGOR

Assistant Commissioner.

Leribe,

30th June, 1904.

ANNUAL REPORT—MAFETENG DISTRICT, 1903-1904.

In examining the events of the past twelve months I must not overlook the fact that rumours coming from outside territories reached the natives and caused them to be suspicious and uneasy regarding the intention of His Majesty's Government towards them.

The rumours chiefly referred to a supposed movement of troops into Basutoland at New Year, garnished with absurd stories which were readily accepted by credulous people, but as nothing unpleasant happened to them they realised that the stories were only the talk of irresponsible Europeans, and their confidence in Government was restored. These rumours are still in circulation, and although Chiefs and people treat them with apparent indifference, it is obvious that they believe that all white men desire the country, while at the same time they understand that their rights will be protected and respected as long as they, as a people, are loyal and obedient.

I referred last year to Chief Moyela's complaint about encroachments on land in his ward by people who do not acknowledge his authority. The matter is still unsettled owing to the reluctance of the Paramount Chief to delineate a proper boundary for ploughing.

In May last year at Makhaleng a headman of the Ba-Mohale had a small affray with some people of Chief Seiso regarding grazing and garden rights. Those concerned obeyed an order from this Office to keep the peace, and I have received assurances from the Paramount Chief that as soon as his state of health permits he will attend to the case.

By invitation many natives possessed of oxen and seed went to farms in the Orange River Colony to plough on the half share system. When crops were harvested some Dutch farmers on frivolous pretexts refused to pay the shares natives were justly entitled to receive, and such cases, on being reported at this Office, have been referred for investigation to the local authorities in the Orange River Colony.

There has been a considerable increase in the Orange River Colony of the illicit sale of brandy to natives in this country. The liquor comes, as a rule, from licensed dealers who sometimes sell it direct to natives, but more generally the liquor is purchased by low class whites, who pass it on to the native customers at a profit. The authorities in the Orange River Colony endeavour to stop this pernicious traffic, and have secured some convictions, but still, as the profits in the illicit trade are considerable, some people are always ready to continue it and take the risk of

detection. The Basutoland police are constantly patrolling the border, and have done good work in arresting numerous smugglers, and quite recently a Wepener Dutchman was discovered in Basutoland in the act of selling thirty (30) bottles of brandy to a native.

Agents representing various mines and Government work departments have been in Mafeteng recruiting labourers during the past twelve months, and natives in large numbers have gone freely to work.

The Census taken in April by a staff of enumerators working under proper supervision, was successfully carried out with the cordial co-operation of the Chiefs.

Some necessary repairs were done to Government quarters, and dams were improved, and further experiments in donga stopping carried out. A large number of young trees were planted in and around Mafeteng, and the majority are growing well. An experimental nursery garden for growing young trees and trying various seeds has been started during the year, with some success.

A new water supply for the village, which had long been needed, is now granted by Government, and the pipe service will be soon laid down.

Labour parties kept the main roads and trade routes in good order, and some improvements were carried out.

The wheat harvest practically failed, and for some months people felt the pinch of poverty, and only got relief when their relatives brought or sent money earned in neighbouring colonies, and when the last mealie and Kaffir corn crops ripened. The mealie and Kaffir corn crops recently harvested were tolerably good, though I have noticed that many fields of grain were cut down by early frost and failed to mature.

Some swarms of flying locusts visited the district, apparently coming from north and north-west, and passed to the east and south-east, and south, but these did not do material damage to local crops, which were mostly dry at the time. I have not heard of locusts hatching out in this neighbourhood. Instructions have been received from the Resident Commissioner to observe the flight and movements of locusts, and printed forms for the purpose of recording observations have been given to intelligent persons who are willing to undertake the work.

The district has been remarkably free from all malignant stock diseases, and the removal of stock to the Orange River Colony was most carefully supervised, and only allowed under special permits.

As Basutoland delegate I attended the Inter-Colonial Veterinary Conference at Bloemfontein, November, 1903, and Cape Town, May, 1904.

The 25 Government aided schools in the district were all visited by a Government School Inspector, who has furnished a report. It is noticeable that the rising generation of natives are showing a stronger desire for education than in previous years.

I append the usual annual returns :—

Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	9,118	0	0
Licences	378	10	0
Judicial fines	71	0	0
Fees	5	18	0
Miscellaneous receipts ...	437	8	0
	£10,010	16	0

Tax was paid on 9,006 huts.
Arrear tax amounted to £148.

Licences.

General traders' licences	25
Hawkers' licences (paid)	121
„ „ (free)	7
Labour agents' licences	3

Passes Issued.

Visiting in Orange River Colony ...	11,473
„ Cape Colony	914
Farm and domestic work	9,692
Kimberley mines	407
Orange River Colony mines	2,116
Johannesburg mines	127
Railway construction	566
Agricultural labour	748
Indwe coal mines	11
Miscellaneous work	3,727
	29,781

Remittances from Johannesburg.

	£	s.	d.
119 remittances	837	2	6

Police.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-inspector	1
Native officers	2
„ constables	2
„ sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ privates	33

Patrols.

Number of patrols	741
„ men employed	251
„ miles patrolled	11,350
„ arrests	35
(*a*) for contravening liquor regulations	13
(*b*) for contravening pass regulations	3
(*c*) other offences	19

Cases Tried.

The following cases were tried in the Assistant Commissioner's court :—

Civil cases	2
I. D. B.	1
Resisting police	1
Contravening customs regulations	2
„ trading „	7
„ liquor „	8
„ Masters and Servants Act ...	1

Cases Tried—cont.

Contravening High Commissioner's Proclamation, No. 19 of 1899 ...	3
„ Police Offences Act	1
„ pass regulations	2
Theft	6
Perjury	2
Concealment of birth	1
Culpable homicide	1
Fraud	1
Assault	1

Some fugitive offenders were arrested on warrants issued in the Cape Colony and Orange River Colony and surrendered.

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol... ...	46
„ „ discharged unconvicted ...	5
„ „ convicted and sentenced ...	41
„ „ in gaol 30th June, 1904 ...	12

No floggings were inflicted during the year, but three juveniles (native boys) received 15 strokes with a cane, each. The gaol at Mafeteng is a new and substantial stone building. The cells are large and well ventilated, and the premises are perfectly sanitary.

Lost and Stolen Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered in Basuto-land.	Recovered in Orange River Colony.	Not recovered.
Horses ...	61	10	51	10	24	27
Cattle ...	36	7	29	2	5	29
Sheep ...	77	41*	36	27°	—	50

° Remainder eaten by thieves ; 2 died of poverty

Prices of Stock and Produce.

Cattle, each	£6 to £12
Horses „	£10 to £25
Sheep „	10*s.* to 30*s.*
Goats „	10*s.* to 30*s.*
Wheat, per bag	18*s.* to 22*s.*
Mealies „	7*s.* to 10*s.*
Kaffir corn „	10*s.* to 15*s.*
Wool, per lb.	4*d.* to 5*d.*
Mohair „	6*d.* to 9*d.*

Commerce was depressed during the year, due no doubt to the failure of the mealie and Kaffir corn crops in 1903, and the wheat crop in 1904, which deprived the people of their usual buying power. Some business was done with agents of the German Government, who bought a number of Basuto ponies for remount purposes.

The Annual agricultural show was held at Mafeteng in May, and the exhibits brought by native producers were good and numerous.

Population.

According to the Census taken in April, 1904, the population in Mafeteng district was :—

Whites	144
Natives	57,288

T. P. Kennan,

Assistant Commissioner

Mafeteng,

30th June, 1904.

ANNUAL REPORT—MASERU DISTRICT, 1903-1904.

I am glad to be able to report that no serious disturbances have occurred in this district during the last 12 months.

Some excitement was caused by a native prophetess in the Chief Bereng's ward who, amongst other things, prophesied that great trouble was imminent and that there would be a great war in which every one would be killed with the sole exception of those who consulted her and paid her sums of money, and that these survivors would become very wealthy, as all stock, grain and other property belonging to those killed would revert to them. Numbers of people visited the prophetess and paid their money, in sums ranging from 2*s*. upwards. The excitement becoming more general it was thought advisable to put a stop to it, and the Paramount Chief was called upon to do so. He seized the proceeds and fined all he could catch consulting her; but notwithstanding this, people used to visit her at night. Lerothodi was then called upon to send her into Maseru, which he did, and it was found that she was a weakly, hysterical woman upon whose affliction her husband and father-in-law were trading: the two latter were tried and punished and the woman handed over to her father, who lives in Maseru, to look after. This woman is said to have been initiated into the mysteries of reading the future by a famous old woman named Mantsopa living at Modderpoort in the Ladybrand district, Orange River Colony, who has been consulted by the Basuto for many years, but whose influence to-day is not nearly as great as it has been, owing to the non-fulfilment of her prophecies.

Last season's crops were an entire failure. The maize and Kaffir corn were cut by the early frosts before they were ripe, and the wheat, which promised very well at first, failed to mature owing to want of seasonable rains; consequently grain has been very scarce and the cost high, as almost every bag consumed has had to be imported. The present season has been a very good one and large crops of maize and Kaffir corn are being reaped, the grain being of a superior quality. A quantity of wheat has been sown, but it is too early in the season to be able to say what it may turn out like.

During the latter end of 1903 there were great complaints of horse stealing in the district, and for some time no trace could be found of the lost horses or of the thieves. Early this year Lerothodi caught a man with stock in his possession for which he could not satisfactorily account and he turned out to be one of a more or less organised gang of native thieves with their head

quarters in the bordering town of Ladybrand. This man gave away his confreres, and with the assistance of the Criminal Investigation Department of the Orange River Colony the rest of the gang have been arrested and are now in gaol serving various terms of imprisonment. In connection with this theft case, the great majority of the stolen stock was disposed of to a Dutch farmer in the Ladybrand district who, according to the thieves, never demanded a pass from them for the stock, nor made any enquiries as to its being their *bona fide* property, and thus they were easily able to dispose of it. Twenty-seven head of cattle have been returned to their owners in the Orange River Colony and fifteen horses have been returned to native owners in Basutoland.

No tribal fights have occurred during the year under review, and only one small boundary dispute has taken place between the wards of the Paramount Chief and his brother Maama. This dispute has not yet been finally settled, but does not present any very great difficulty in its adjustment.

A census of the district was taken in April and the final returns show a population of 68,017 natives and 359 Europeans. I was a little handicapped in the taking of the census owing to the absence of Lerothodi from the district, but I got him to appoint influential messengers to accompany my enumerators, and the whole work went off without a hitch. I employed 28 educated native enumerators and each one was accompanied by a Chief's messenger to prevent any trouble from individuals perhaps alleging that their Chief had not informed them of the proposed work. The Paris Evangelical Missionary Society placed at my disposal as many of their schoolmasters as I cared to employ, and I took advantage of this kind offer to call upon them for 24, and I am deeply grateful to the Society for their assistance, as it meant a great deal of inconvenience to them and practically the closing of all their schools in the district for a period of two weeks. The cost of the work was £63.

A new hospital has been erected at Maseru. It is a very handsome and commodious building, and will be a great boon to European and native alike. The efforts of the Medical Officer to alleviate distress have been greatly hampered owing to the insufficiency of accommodation at the old dispensary and want of proper hospital requirements, which are now supplied in the new building, together with two ladies as qualified nurses.

The work of donga prevention has been steadily proceeded with, and some 5,000 trees have been planted out during the year.

The water supply for the village has been slightly augmented by the cleaning out of the eyes of the springs and enclosing them with a strong wire fence to prevent contamination by stock. This work has been undertaken by Civil Engineer Gibson, and

under his supervision a reservoir is being built for the conservation of the water.

Religious instruction and educational work are carried on with satisfactory results by missionaries of the Paris Evangelical, English, and Roman Catholic churches. The Paris Evangelical Missionary Society have built a new Church at Maseru capable of seating 800 people. There are also isolated congregations and schools of the American Methodist Episcopal Church scattered over the district.

There has been little disease amongst stock during the year. With the exception of an outbreak of a disease which was at first diagnosed as foot-and-mouth disease, but which turned out to be common aphtha and did not prove fatal, the district has been remarkably free of disease. All stock is in good condition. There are two Government Arab stallions at this station, free covers being given from them to native mares.

An agricultural show was held at Maseru on the 24th May, and proved a great success, the entries under all heads being good, and those for riding ponies, maize, and Kaffir corn being exceptionally so. Prizes to the amount of £101 10*s.* were awarded.

Owing to the entire failure of the crops trade has been very depressed, and merchants who laid in heavy stocks in anticipation of a good harvest have had their goods on hand and been unable to dispose of them.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

REVENUE.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax...	10,551	0	0
Licences	405	0	0
Fines	54	3	6
Ferry tolls	264	11	0
Fees of court or office... ...	9	2	0
Miscellaneous receipts... ...	361	7	6
Total	£11,645	4	0

The hut tax is £298 10*s.* short of the amount paid last year and is, in my opinion, accounted for by the scarcity of grain during the year.

Tax was paid on 10,369 huts, and arrear tax amounting to £302 was collected.

Licences.

The number of licences issued is as under :—

General traders'	29
Hawkers' (paid)	93
„ (free)	10
Labour licences	44

Passes.

The following is a return of passes issued :—

To Kimberley	541
„ Johannesburg	2,361
„ Indwe coal mines	15
„ Bloemfontein (municipal and sundry)	3,653
„ Johnannesburg (Sanitary Board)	1,555
„ Railway construction	1,639
„ Agricultural	667
Visiting in O. R. C.	11,464
„ „ C. C.	426
Total	22,321

Remittances from Johannesburg.

Remittances from natives in Johannesburg to their friends and relatives in Basutoland, through the Native Affairs Department Remittance Agency, to the amount of £1,544 1*s.* 9*d.* have been received and paid out.

Police.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-inspector	1
European constables	2
Native „	2
„ sergeant	1
corporals	2
„ privates	56

Patrols.

Number of patrols	556
„ men employed	668
Estimated distance travelled (miles) ...	9,366

And the following arrests have been made :—

(*a*) Contravening liquor laws	1
(*b*) „ pass „	26
(*c*) Other offences	3

Cases Tried.

The following cases have been tried during the year : —

Assault	7
Concealment of birth	1
Contravening liquor regulations	2
„ pass „	15
„ trading „	2
Forgery	1
Theft	23
Other offences	9
Civil cases	1

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	80
„ „ discharged and unconvicted ...	15
„ „ convicted and sentenced ...	44
„ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1904 ...	37

No floggings were inflicted.

Return of Lost or Stolen Stock.

Description.	Reported Lost.	Traced into Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	43	10	33	10	33
Cattle	17	—	17	—	17
Sheep	65	—	65	—	65

Prices of Stock and Produce.

The following are current prices for stock and produce :—

Cattle	£10 to £12.
Horses	£15 to £25.
Sheep	£1 to £1 10*s.*
Goats	10*s.* to 15*s.*
Wheat	20*s.*
Mealies	8*s.* to 10*s.*
Kaffir corn	12*s.* to 15*s.*
Wool	4*d.* per lb.
Mohair	6*d.* „ „

Population.

White	359
Native	68,017

Chas. E. Boyes,
Assistant Commissioner.

Maseru,
30th June, 1904.

ANNUAL REPORT—MOHALES HOEK DISTRICT, 1903–1904.

In summing up the events of the past year, the political aspect of the district may be considered satisfactory. Peace has remained undisturbed. Minor local disputes have occurred and have been dealt with by native courts.

The trouble with the late followers of the deposed Chief Mocheko has greatly diminished, and the people in the ward are much more at rest.

The quarrel between Mahlehle and Alfred Moletsane of the Bataung ward, mentioned in my last Annual Report, continues. No actual disturbance has occurred, but Mahlehle has continued his aggressive conduct, and blows have only been averted through the patient conduct shown by Alfred. The matter is now in the hands of the Paramount Chief. He has nominated Alfred as Chief of the Monyake ward and I trust that goodwill will now be restored.

During the past 12 months liquor running (by the Basuto) from the Cape Colony, chiefly Lady Grey, has been very prevalent—*vide* criminal returns attached. With a view to checking this growing evil, a police outpost has been placed at Pahlalla Drift, where most of this contraband stuff is crossed into Basutoland. The result of this measure has proved satisfactory: many arrests have been made, much brandy captured and destroyed, and the culprits severely punished.

Through my detectives I learned that a number of the Bamohales, who were obviously the principals in this contraband traffic, had determined to arm themselves with short spears, hidden under their blankets, wherewith to resist the police in case they stopped them. I at once sent for Chief Malebanye and ordered him to call a pitso and explain to the people that I was fully aware of their criminal threat, and was prepared to take the necessary steps to meet and prevent any such illegal and rebellious conduct. The pitso was held on the 14th of May, when official messengers were present. The meeting was largely attended and the message from this Office clearly explained. The result has so far been satisfactory, and it is hoped that the evil has received an important check.

In January the Baposholi Chief Chopo died, and is succeeded by his eldest son Lesala.

The Census taken in April last shows a large increase in the population of the district.

I regret to have to report a falling off in the hut tax during the past 12 months. There is a shortage of £260 as compared with last year. This may be attributed largely to the exodus of refugees and many others, who have taken up their abode in the Orange River Colony and elsewhere, since the declaration of peace.

Relations with adjacent territories remain satisfactory.

Stock thefts are greatly on the decline.

The roads in the district are in fairly good order, a good deal of sound work has been put in, more especially between this and the Mafeteng border.

The water supply for the village is not sufficient; has, in fact, for months almost stopped, and most, if not all, water for domestic purposes has had to be drawn from the spring in the magistracy grounds, causing much inconvenience to all and the magistracy in particular. A proposal for a better supply will be submitted as soon as correct estimates can be obtained.

Education and religion are making fair progress under the direction of the Paris Evangelical Society, Church of England, and others. The schools were inspected by a Government Inspector.

The health of the district is satisfactory—*vide* Medical Officer's report attached.

The stock in the district is in good condition and healthy, notwithstanding the want of rain during the summer and autumn months.

The wheat crop was practically a failure owing to the want of rain during the proper season. The mealie and Kaffir corn crop is fairly good and has rendered the importation of these cereals unnecessary, and has reduced the prices very materially.

The Arab stallion stabled at this station for stud purposes has only been used for a limited number of mares; owing to his youth this was considered necessary. He is a very promising colt and appears to me the right class of animal for improving the breed of horses in Basutoland, being of a much larger and stouter type than those imported from India. This stallion (Munir) was bred and bought in England.

Attached will be found the usual annual returns.

Revenue.

Return of revenue collected in the district during the year ended 30th June, 1904.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	9,331	10	0
Licences	265	10	0
Fines	467	5	0
Fees of court or office... ...	11	17	6
Miscellaneous	145	3	6
Total ...	£10,221	6	0

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 9,093

Amount of arrear tax paid during the year ended 30th June, 1904, £289 10*s*.

Licences.

General traders'	17
Hawkers'	50
Labour	9

Passes.

Visiting Orange River Colony ...	1,184
,, Cape Colony	1,674
Kimberley mines	477
Indwe mines	19
Railway construction	4
Jagersfontein mines	750
Orange River Colony mines (including Vereeniging)	32
Agriculture	3,907
Miscellaneous	2,647
Johannesburg	253
Total	10,947

Remittances.

Remittances to natives from Johannesburg during the year ended 30th June, 1904, £231 18*s*. 6*d*.

Police.

Return of police stationed at Mohales Hoek during year ended 30th June, 1904 :—

Sub-inspectors	2
European constable	1
Native officer	1
Sergeant	1
Corporal	1
Privates	24
Total	30

Patrols.

Number of patrols	146
Total number of men engaged ...	186
Estimated distance travelled (miles) ...	14,425
Number of arrests (*a*)	35
(*b*)	56
(*c*)	26

Criminal and Civil Cases.

Return of cases tried in the court of the Assistant Commissioner during the past year :—

Culpable homicide	2
Contravening Liquor Law	16
Theft	5
Contravening Pass Law	10
Fraud	1
Resisting police on duty	2
Miscellaneous	3
Civil cases	1

Gaol Return.

Prisoners received into gaol	57
„ discharged unconvicted ...	6
„ convicted	51
„ in gaol on 30th June, 1904 ...	13

Return of Lost or Stolen Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	14	2	12	2	12
Cattle	17	—	17	—	17
Sheep and Goats	40	7	33	7	33

Prices of Stock and Produce.

Cattle	£8 to £14
Horses	£10 to £30
Sheep	15*s.* to 25*s.*
Goats	10*s.* to 20*s.*
Wheat (per bag)	20*s.*
Mealies „	10*s.*
Kaffir corn „	12*s.* to 13*s.*
Wool (per lb.)	4*d.*
Mohair „	7*d.*

Population.

Natives	51,107
Whites...	93

J. W. Bowker,

Assistant Commissioner

Mohales Hoek,
30th June, 1904.

ANNUAL REPORT—QUTHING DISTRICT, 1903-1904.

The principal Chief of the district, Nkuebe Letsie, died early in July, 1903. His son, Simpe, acted as his father's successor until March, 1904, when he was definitely appointed Chief of the district.

During this interval orders were issued that all land questions and native disputes generally should stand over until the Paramount Chief was able to come to Quthing.

This visit took place in March last, and extended over several weeks, during which a considerable accumulation of work was disposed of, a report of which has already been submitted.

It will probably be necessary to take steps to enforce certain of these judgments and decisions relative to right of occupation, as Basuto are very tenacious in their grip of land, however acquired, and they invariably endeavour to snatch another crop from the soil, if possible, before restoring it to the rightful owner. The rule of the Chiefs is weak in this respect, as they can seldom be induced to give or enforce a judgment involving confiscation of a growing crop.

There is an increasing tendency on the part of natives to dispose of their produce and purchase goods outside the territory, in preference to dealing with the local traders. This will render it advisable to station police at the various ports of entry to enforce the Customs Regulations, as the quantity of goods so imported by natives is becoming considerable.

A severe drought prevailed during most of the last 12 months. There was absolutely no rain during July, August and September, 1903, and the wheat crop was nearly a total failure.

No Agricultural Show was held here this year owing to drought and general scarcity of grain, and poverty of live stock.

The water supply has diminished seriously, many springs having dried up, and all being perceptibly weaker than in former years.

The Government plantations have suffered to some extent, especially seedling trees, which, in addition to the drought, suffered from the attacks of insects.

The Arab stud-horse "Azim" was transferred to Qacha's Nek district in September, 1903, and "Farsang," a newly imported Arab from the stud of Mr. Wilfrid Blunt, was sent to replace him. This is a bay horse of the strain of Managhi ibn

Sbeyel. He is much admired by the Basuto, and appears likely to be extensively patronized. His predecessor, "Azim," was also bred by Mr. Blunt. This horse's foals are very promising, but few in number, he having only spent a short time in this district.

I regret to have to report the death of the District Medical Officer, Dr. A. S. Gardiner who died about the end of the year 1903. His successor, Dr. H. M. Cory, arrived here in April last.

The district roads are in fair order considering the rugged nature of the country they traverse.

The waterworks, as previously mentioned, require overhauling. A larger supply of water could be obtained, if necessary, from the Nkonkobe Spruit. This was pointed out to the engineer, Mr. Gibson, when he visited Quthing.

Public buildings and officers' quarters are in fair order, minor repairs being wanted in some instances.

The work of donga prevention shows satisfactory results so far as it has been carried on. Should it be considered advisable to proceed therewith a further grant will be required.

The following returns are attached :—

1. Revenue.
2. Licences.
3. Passes issued.
4. Remittances to natives from Johannesburg.
5. Police.
6. Patrols.
7. Civil and criminal cases tried.
8. Gaol return.
9. Lost or stolen stock.
10. Prices—stock and produce.
11. Population.

1. REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	6,285	10	0
Licences	182	10	0
Fines	274	17	6
Ferry tolls	184	17	3
Fees of court or office ...	5	11	0
Miscellaneous	121	1	0
Total	£7,054	6	9

Number of huts on which hut tax was paid, 6,088.
Amount of arrear tax paid, £207.

2. Licences.

General traders' licences	14
Hawkers' licences	51
Labour agents' licences	3

3. Passes.

Visiting in Cape Colony	5,233
Visiting in O.R.C. and Transvaal ...	392
Agricultural and domestic service ...	1,799
Transport and selling produce ...	1,144
Johannesburg mines	68
Transvaal railways	41
Kimberley mines	6
Jagersfontein mines	33
Indwe railway	50
Total	8,766

Remittances from Johannesburg.

Thirty-four remittances ... ... £183 10*s.*

Police.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-inspector	1
Native sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ lance-corporal	1
1st class privates	4
2nd „ „	18

Patrols.

Number of patrols		56
„ men employed		85
„ miles travelled		3,523
„ arrests		29
(*a*) Contravening pass laws ...	9	
(*b*) Contravening liquor laws ...	9	
(*c*) Other offences	11	

Cases Tried.

Civil cases	5
Criminal cases :—	
Theft	22
Contravening pass laws	19
„ liquor laws	14
„ trading laws	9
Rape	1
Other offences	18

8. Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	73
„ „ convicted and sentenced ...	68
„ „ discharged unconvicted ...	5
„ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1904 ...	13

9. Lost or Stolen Stock.

Description.	Number.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	36	11	25	10	26
Cattle	45	—	45	—	45
Sheep and goats	308	249	59	155	153

10. Prices of Stock and Produce.

Cattle	£5 to £12.
Horses	£10 to £25.
Sheep	15*s.* to £1 10*s.*
Goats	8*s.* to 15*s.*
Wheat	£1 10*s.* per bag.
Mealies	17*s.* 6*d.* „
Wool	3*d.* per lb.
Mohair	6*d.* „
Kaffir corn	£1 10*s.* per bag.

11. Population.

Europeans	65
Natives	30,429

S. Barrett,
Assistant Commissioner.

Quthing, Basutoland,
30th June, 1904.

ANNUAL REPORT—QACHA'S NEK DISTRICT, 1903–1904.

I returned from Berea on the 15th February, 1904, and resumed charge of this district.

On looking over the records for the past year, I find that nothing of any political importance has occurred.

During the month of May, Chief Sekake informed me that he had been deprived of some of his country, containing a cattle post which he has had for the last 20 years, by Chief Sempe Nkhewbe, of the Quthing district.

No boundary line appears to have ever been defined. Fortunately no arms were taken up. The matter has been reported and is receiving the careful attention of the Resident Commissioner.

In the late Chief Leteba Seperi's ward there is a good deal of friction between the successor Maoala and his cousin Mangane, who has, I believe, the support of some influential Chief.

A stable has been built for an Arab stallion which was sent up here last September; very few of the inhabitants have availed themselves of its services, which are given gratis.

A small house for the sub-inspector is in course of construction, and will be completed soon.

Public offices and a proper gaol are badly needed at this station.

The wheat crop was almost a total failure, due to the prolonged drought; mealies are only fair in parts, having been considerably damaged by the incessant rains which fell in February and March.

The following are the usual annual returns:—

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	3,329	0	0
Licences	81	10	0
Judicial fines	48	10	0
Fees	0	7	6
Miscellaneous	80	8	0
Total ...	£3,539	15	6

Hut tax was paid on 3,274 huts.

Amount of arrear tax paid was £95.

Licences.

General traders' licences	3
Hawkers' licences (paid)	51
Labour agents' licences	1

Passes Issued.

Visiting in Orange River Colony ...	61
„ Cape Colony	2,790
Kimberley mines	16
Railway construction...	161
Johannesburg mines	17
Agricultural work	474
Indwe coal mines	39
Miscellaneous work	9,264
Visiting in Natal	101
Working in „	764
	13,687

Remittances from Johannesburg.

	£	s.	d.
1 remittance	4	10	0

Police.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is:—

Native corporal	1
„ privates	18

Patrols.

Number of patrols	111
„ men employed	154
„ miles travelled	6,720
„ arrests	15
(*a*) Contravening liquor regulations.	—
(*b*) Contravening pass regulations.	6
(*c*) Other offences ...	9

Cases Tried.

The following cases were tried in the Assistant Commissioner's court :—

Contravening pass regulations ...	6
„ trading regulations ...	5
Theft	13
Civil cases	1
Other crimes	2

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	31
„ „ convicted and sentenced ...	26
„ „ discharged unconvicted ...	5
„ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1904 ...	11
Floggings inflicted	Nil

Lost or Stolen Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not recovered.
Horses	4	—	4	—	4
Cattle	6	—	6	—	6
Sheep and goats	463	330	133	156	307

Prices of Stock and Produce.

Cattle	£5 to £15.
Horses	£5 to £25.
Sheep	10*s.* to 25*s.*
Goats	10*s.* to 25*s.*
Wheat	30*s.* (scarce).
Mealies	20*s.* per bag.
Kaffir corn	(None).
Wool	4*d.* to 5*d.* per lb.
Mohair	7*d.* per lb.

Population.

Europeans	4
Natives	18,474

E. D'U. Blyth,
Assistant Commissioner.

Qacha's Nek,
30th June, 1904.

PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT, 1903-1904.

The number of patients treated during the year has been about the same as the previous year. I append a table showing the number of cases treated at the various stations.

Station.	Out-patients.		In-patients.	Vaccinations.
	New Cases.	Subsequent attendances.		
Leribe	4,114	749	86	19,888
Maseru	6,304	1,844	260	15,134
Ma'eteng	4,042	1 348	44	8,788
Mohales Hoek	2,215	257	26	3,849
Quthing	724	277	—	2,751
	17,399	4,475	416	50,419

Total number of attendances for the year 72,700.

The very small number of patients treated at Quthing was due to the prolonged illness of the late Dr. Gardiner, by whose death the Service lost a zealous and efficient officer.

The general scope and efficiency of the medical work promises to be greatly increased by the completion of the new hospital at Maseru. This hospital, which was opened on the 28th May, 1904, contains 28 beds, and its construction and equipment are both all that could be desired. The appointment of a European matron and staff nurse will ensure the maintenance of the institution in a manner equal to the excellence of its construction.

There is a growing need for hospital accommodation in the territory. Apart from the general run of diseases occurring in the country, there is an increasing number of cases of acute disease amongst men returning from the labour centres. Such men often arrive at the camps in an exhausted condition and quite unfit to proceed to their homes. It would therefore be highly desirable to have well equipped hospitals at all the stations. Such a course would undoubtedly entail a considerable outlay both for construction and maintenance.

It is as well, however, not to lose sight of the fact that the Government hospitals and dispensaries are partly self-supporting.

During the year under review the amount collected in out-patient fees, vaccination certificates, etc., realized £1,930 10*s*. This sum more than covered the cost of drugs and maintenance of patients (£1,680 16*s*. 1*d*.).

During the year the medical staff has responded to the request of the Cancer Research Committee for specimens of new growths, and a considerable number of sections of tumours has been forwarded to the Director.

With reference to His Excellency the High Commissioner's despatch of 4th July, 1904, and in accordance with the instructions of the Resident Commissioner, a short pamphlet on hygiene has been prepared and translated into Sesuto for use in the native schools. It was thought better to give the people some simple instructions in this subject instead of expounding to them the mosquito theory in relation to malarial fever, a disease which is unknown in Basutoland.

Dr. Ellis in his annual report draws attention to the unrestricted sale of drugs by traders in this territory.

At present, there is, I believe, no proclamation dealing with the administration of medicine and pharmacy in Basutoland.

The question naturally presents itself as to whether some legislation in this direction would not be possible, and if so, to arrange (as far as the conditions which obtain in Basutoland admit) to legislate in conformity with the regulations which control medical practice in other South African Colonies.

From a communication from the Colonial Secretary of Natal to His Honour the Resident Commissioner, I gather that a conference of medical representatives, deputed by the Governments of the Cape Colony, Natal, Transvaal, and Orange River Colony, was recently held in Maritzburg. At this conference certain recommendations were made with a view to a common action being taken by the South African Governments for the control of medicine, dentistry and pharmacy.

The support of this Government was solicited towards this object. That there should be some such control in Basutoland is, I think, desirable, both as regards the present condition, and the future development of the country.

There is in Basutoland a Government medical service which was inaugurated partly for the purpose of counteracting the harmful influence of the native witch doctor. This purpose has, to some extent, been attained. In addition, the health and well-being of the population has undoubtedly greatly benefited. Besides the Government medical officers, who are mainly concerned in the administration of the Government dispensaries and hospitals, a few medical men have settled in the country, and practice their profession among the natives.

No evidence of proper qualifications is required from such medical men, nor are their methods of practice subject to the control of any authority analogous to the Colonial Medical Councils in other Colonies. In saying this I do not suggest that there has been any need of such control, but I do consider it advisable that some controlling power, such as that possessed by Colonial Medical Councils, should exist.

Apart from the alleviation of suffering, and the cure and prevention of disease, medical practice by duly qualified Europeans has an undoubted civilizing influence. It therefore seems desirable to guard as far as possible against any method in the practice of medicine which might hinder that civilizing influence.

There is a very considerable trade in drugs carried on by Europeans who have had no medical training, and in some instances large fees are received from natives for advice and medicine. (This remark does not refer to the gratuitous help often so generously afforded by missionaries, many of whom have had some medical training). Whether it is either possible or advisable to control this trade is a difficult question to decide.

It must not, however, be forgotten that we have now in Government employ a number of native dispensers, who, quick to see how lucrative unqualified practice is, may at any time elect to leave the Government service and exploit their fellow-native.

One such case occurred some years ago, and I consider it would be a distinct danger to the community if these men were allowed to pursue such a course. Drugs to them are only names, and confusion in names in such a case could easily lead to disaster.

The exigencies of the case might possibly be met by a strict control of the sale of drugs, but I see no objection to the sale of patent medicines.

The whole matter is one for most careful consideration, and one which I consider merits the immediate attention of the Government.

The sanitary affairs of the territory call for no special comment.

The water supply at some of the stations is still an important question which has received considerable attention. Several schemes for the improvement of the water supply are, I understand, under consideration.

The health of the police force and the prisoners has been uniformly good.

EDW. C. LONG,

Principal Medical Officer.

Maseru,
30th June, 1904.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT— LERIBE DISTRICT, 1903-1904.

The following table shows the attendance at the hospital and dispensary, and the vaccinations for the year ending June 30th, 1904 :—

1903–1904.	Number.
Out-patients—Dispensary	4,114
Subsequent attendances	740
In-patients—Hospital	86
Vaccinations	19,888
Total	24,828

These figures show a considerable increase over previous years, and it is gratifying to note that the patients are evincing a greater desire to return for advice and medicine.

As regards the in-patients, the total is larger than it has ever been, and with increased accommodation and equipment far more could be done.

Most of the cases admitted were surgical. Many medical cases that present themselves at the dispensary would benefit by hospital treatment, but the small number of beds and want of efficient nursing discourage this.

The health of the district during the year has been good, and there have been no serious epidemics. Small-pox broke out at Dipetung and a village near, but the disease was easily circumscribed, and did not spread. Thirty-five people were ill, of whom two died.

The health of the police and prisoners has been above the average.

A water supply has been introduced into the camp here and has removed a long-standing want.

The figures for vaccination include those from the police camp at Butha Buthe and Peka.

Since my last report the Service has lost a valuable and efficient servant in Azael Sekese, the hospital interpreter and dispenser, who died on June 6th from pyæmia, contracted in the execution of his duty.

N. M. MACFARLANE,
Medical Officer.

Leribe,
30th June, 1904.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT—MAFETENG DISTRICT, 1903-1904.

During the past year 5,390 out-patients have been seen and treated at the Government hospital, a slight decrease on the preceding year, when the figures were 5,756.

There have been very few cases of serious illness, and nothing in the nature of an epidemic, except in the case of chicken-pox, which had attacked a number of villages in the district.

Except in the instance mentioned, cases of infectious diseases have been rare, enteric fever, which was very prevalent a year or two ago, having almost disappeared.

The general health of the police and prisoners has been good; and the gaol whenever I have visited it has been in a clean and sanitary condition.

I have been unable to assist the Cancer Research Committee in any way as so few cases have come under my notice, and those that have have refused operation.

I wish to bring to your notice the subject of the sale of drugs at the stores. I do not refer to proprietary medicines, but to drugs, such as croton oil and remedies for syphilis.

I assume that the medical officers were appointed for the purpose of trying to get the natives out of the hands of the Ngaka and the quack. If this practice (the sale of drugs at the stores) is allowed to continue, I cannot see that the Basuto's condition in that respect is greatly bettered. Of course at out-stations a few simple remedies might be kept, but in the camps, where there is a resident medical officer, I certainly think there is no necessity for the sale of the dangerous class of drugs to which I have alluded.

R. KINGDON ELLIS,
Medical Officer

Mafeteng,
30th June, 1904.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT, MOHALES HOEK DISTRICT, 1903–1904.

The total number of new out-patients numbered 2,215, and subsequent visits amounted to 257. There were 36 cases admitted to the hospital; of these 11 were medical and 25 surgical cases. Of this number 4 are still under treatment, 3 died in hospital —2 of phthisis and 1 of a severe burn soon after admission—24 were cured, 2 were discharged for disobeying orders, and 2 were not improved.

There were 3,849 vaccination certificates issued to natives going out to work, and a large number of natives were vaccinated free of charge, so I understand, during my absence on leave last winter, when small-pox was prevalent in the district.

The mortality from small-pox was small, and this has led to the idea that the disease is not small-pox, but a severe form of chicken-pox. I am quite convinced, however, that a mild form of small-pox does occur in Basutoland, as well as outbreaks of chicken-pox, and that it is necessary to be always on the outlook for small-pox and to take the usual precautions to stamp it out.

Other epidemic diseases have been marked by their absence in this district during the past year.

The health of the police detachment and their families has been good.

The prisoners have been healthy, notwithstanding the overcrowded state of the gaol at night.

A new gaol is required at this station, of an improved type, and with more space for accommodation of prisoners.

A female cell should also be provided. Disjointed planks on iron brackets should replace the fixed raised wooden sleeping place, so as to allow of thorough airing and disinfection, which at present cannot be effectually carried out. Better ventilation is also required.

The water supply is also not as constant and free as it might be, and an additional supply, or some improvement on the present supply, is much needed.

The disposal of night soil should be made uniform. The officials and some of the traders, and others, use the dry earth system; some still retain the pit, with its probable chances of diffusing disease.

No. 480.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1903-4, see No. 444.)

HIGH COMMISSIONER THE EARL OF SELBORNE
to MR. LYTTELTON.

High Commissioner's Office,
Johannesburg,
23rd October, 1905.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland, enclosing a Report on that territory for the year ended June 30th, 1905.

I have, &c.,

SELBORNE,
High Commissioner.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 480.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1904-5.

(For Report for 1903-4, see No. 444.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1905.

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I would recommend that every European inhabitant be compelled to use the dry earth system, and that each bucket be emptied once a week, and more often if the number of people using the bucket necessitates it.

I believe that in Maseru the prisoners are utilised for emptying the buckets and that the traders are charged a small monthly sum. This could easily be arranged here.

W. R. NATTLE,

Medical Officer.

Mohales Hoek,

30th June, 1904.

BASUTOLAND CENSUS, 17th APRIL, 1904.

Comparison of Census Returns for 1891 and 1904.

Census Year.	Huts.		Natives Under 15.		Natives 15 and over.		Natives.		Grand Total.
	Occupied.	Not Occupied.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1891 ..	49,452	—	57,126	54,998	48,080	58,120	105,205	113,119	218,324
1904 ..	86,690	19,026	87,915	86,128	75,301	98,387	163,216	184,515	347,731

Maseru, 17th April, 1904.

Native Return.

Locality.	Huts.		Natives under 15.		Natives 15 and over.		Total.		Grand Total.
	Occupied.	Not occupied.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Leribe	20,067	2,033	21,193	21,568	16,040	23,185	37,233	44,753	81,986
Berea	11,183	3,086	10,361	10,162	7,803	11,963	18,164	22,125	40,289
Maseru	19,614	7,013	16,603	15,793	15,773	19,848	32,376	35,641	68,017
Mafeteng	12,695	2,584	13,786	13,950	13,290	16,262	27,076	30,212	57,288
Mohales Hoek ..	11,773	1,876	12,783	12,308	11,918	14,098	24,701	26,406	51,107
Quthing	6,461	1,206	8,264	7,818	6,322	8,005	14,606	15,823	30,429
Qacha's Nek ..	4,897	1,228	4,897	4,526	4,042	5,001	8,939	9,527	18,466
Gaols	—	—	3	—	95	6	98	6	104
Hospitals	—	—	5	3	18	19	23	22	45
	86,690	19,026	87,915	86,128	75,301	98,387	163,216	184,515	347,731

Maseru, 17th April, 1904.

Returns of White and Coloured Persons.

Locality.	White.		Coloured.		Total Coloured.	Total White.
	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Leribe	84	50	63	18	81	134
Berea	53	43	15	10	25	96
Maseru	208	151	18	15	33	359
Mafeteng ...	80	64	9	11	20	144
Mohales Hoek ...	57	36	24	26	50	93
Quthing ...	34	31	6	5	11	65
Qacha's Nek ...	4	—	2	—	2	4
Gaol	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hospital ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
	520	375	137	85	222	895

Maseru, 17th April, 1904.

Return of Stock, &c., Census, 1904.

Native Return.

District.	Horses.	Cattle.	Ploughs.	Wagons.
Leribe	9,771	35,938	3,047	186
Berea	4,292	18,995	1,864	102
Maseru	11,416	42,162	2,276	284
Mafeteng	10,974	42,415	2,958	374
Mohales Hoek ...	9,101	31,265	2,229	249
Quthing	5,572	21,472	1,133	122
Qacha's Nek ...	12,551	17,636	881	3
	63,677	209,883	14,388	1,320

Maseru, 17th April, 1904.

Return of Stock (taken from Householder's forms C. 1).

European.

District.	Bulls.	Milch cows.	Oxen.	Other cattle.	Stud stallions.	Brood mares.	Horses and mares.	Mules.	Asses.	Woolled sheep.	Sheep (other).	Angora goats.	Goats (other).	Pigs.	Ostriches.	Dogs.
Maseru	23	305	366	295	1	12	284	20	2	543	66	8	66	243	—	88
Leribe	23	147	371	187	7	2	215	1	2	76	142	159	334	48	—	132
Mafeteng ..	14	142	251	179	1	2	143	4	—	538	114	90	119	52	—	61
Mohale's Hoek	10	37	31	123	1	3	66	—	—	201	114	37	51	7	—	33
Quthing ..	12	109	204	129	3	8	74	1	6	444	57	448	52	106	—	53
Qacha's Nek ..	2	18	73	22	1	1	22	—	—	127	—	136	—	—	—	12
Berea	12	103	175	115	1	3	94	—	—	322	50	3	62	20	—	50
	96	861	1,471	1,050	15	31	898	26	10	2,251	543	881	744	476	—	429

Maseru, 17th April, 1904.

Educational Return.

Census, 1904.

Mission.	Return of all Scholars who attended Basutoland Schools during any part of the School Week preceding 15th April, 1904.							Average attendance during School Week ending 15th April, 1904.		
	Under 5 Years.		5 and under 15 Years.		15 Years and Upwards.		Total.	Average.		Total Average.
	M.	F.	M.	F	M.	F.		M.	F.	
P. E. M. S.	—	—	4,932	3,833	1,838	1,336	11,939	4,701·8	3,746·3	8,448·1
Church of England ..	27	15	461	347	243	133	1,226	617	444	1,061
African Methodist Epis.	—	1	133	243	80	41	498	147·7	163	310·7
Roman Catholic	4	14	155	353	60	137	723	192·6	429·6	622·2
Undenominational ..	—	—	2	2	18	4	26	19	5·6	24·6
7th Day Adventist ..	—	—	10	15	—	—	25	6	12	18
Total	31	30	5,693	4,793	2,239	1,651	14,437	5,684·1	4,800·5	10,484·6

Maseru, 17th April, 1904.

Ecclesiastical Return.

Census, 1904.

Mission.	Belonging to the Congregation.						Total No. of Congregation.	Number of Communicants.					Total No. of Communicants.	Total No. Church will contain.	Average Congregations each Service on Sunday.	Baptisms.	Marriages.	Burials.	Remarks.
	Europeans.		All Others.		Total.			Europeans.		All Others.		Total.							
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.							
P. E. M. S.	—	—	9,658	31,298	9,658	31 298	40,956	—	—	3,020	10.535	3,020	10,535	13,555	30 430	25,015	1,669	227	—	Figures not obtainable.
Church of England ..	149	140	988	2.106	1,137	2 246	3.383	44	74	526	1.081	570	1,155	1,725	3,283	2,066	363	44	47	
A. M. E.	—	—	233	565	233	565	798	—	—	167	485	167	485	652	2,355	4,065	224	17	34	
Roman Catholic ..	20	43	1.766	3,872	1,786	3.915	5 701	17	39	1 008	2 562	1 025	2 601	3,626	5,600	3,870	917	102	163	
7th Day Adventist ..	—	—	15	25	15	25	40	—	—	6	13	6	13	19	120	40	6	1	6	

Maseru, 17th April, 1904.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
422	Gibraltar	1903
423	Sierra Leone	,,
424	Gambia	,,
425	Ceylon	,,
426	Gold Coast	,,
427	Lagos	,,
428	Bahamas...	1903–1904
429	Gold Coast : Northern Territories	1903
430	Mauritius	,,
431	Seychelles	,,
432	Barbados	1903–1904
433	Southern Nigeria	1903
434	Fiji	,,
435	Straits Settlements	,,
436	Grenada	,,
437	Northern Nigeria	,,
438	Jamaica	1903–1904
439	Malta	,,
440	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1902–1903 & 1903–1904
441	British Guiana	1903–1904
442	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
443	St. Lucia...	1903

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Weihaiwei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou.
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies... ...	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone ...	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.

RESIDENT COMMISSIONER'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1904–1905.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Maseru,
18th October, 1905.

My Lord,

I have the honour to forward my Annual Report, with the Annual Reports of the Government Secretary and other Officers for the year ended 30th June, 1905.

I have, &c.,

H. C. Sloley,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency,
The Right Honourable,
The Earl of Selborne, P.C., G.C.M.G.,
High Commissioner,
South Africa.

ANNUAL REPORT—BASUTOLAND. FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1905.

The diminution in the Revenue for the year, which falls short of that of the previous three years, is to be accounted for by the considerable reduction in the amount collected as Customs. The share of Customs credited to Basutoland during the year under report was £21,533, as against £35,882 earned in the previous financial year. It is probable that the Customs earnings of the three preceding years were abnormally large, and that the amount which may be expected in normal years will not materially exceed the amount received during the year under report.

The Hut Tax has again been paid well, and the amount brought to account as Miscellaneous Receipts, has increased owing to the interest paid to this Government on sums deposited, or invested in railway construction.

The expenditure, though exceeding that of previous years, was less than the Revenue by £18,196, and that sum has accordingly been added to the balance to credit of the Administration. The total balance now amounts to £153,103, of which £70,000 has been advanced to the Central South African Railways for the purpose of construction of a railway to Maseru, in connection with the railway system of the Orange River Colony.

There have been complaints that trade has been bad during the year. The value of imports has very considerably decreased, while the returns show an increase in the value of exports. Notwithstanding the decrease in the volume of trade, many applications have been received for licences to open new trading stations in the territory, and no stores have been closed. The natives are happily almost entirely free from debt, which I attribute to the discouragement of the credit system by the refusal of the Government to allow accounts for goods supplied on credit to be sued for in the Commissioner's Courts.

The season was distinctly bad from the agriculturalist's point of view. The severe drought during the spring and early summer months destroyed the wheat crops, and the rain came too late for the maize and kaffir corn. In some districts the scarcity of food will undoubtedly be felt before another crop can be reaped.

Efforts have been made during the year to impress upon the Basuto, the necessity for improvement in their agricultural

methods, and in the quality of their produce, and stock. The veterinary officer has performed useful service in discovering and dealing with an outbreak of glanders. Several tanks for dipping sheep have been constructed at suitable spots, and seem to be appreciated by the Basuto. No less than 10,000 sheep were passed through one of these dipping tanks within a few weeks after its completion. There is no doubt that the Basuto are beginning to realise the importance of the wool production, and to think more seriously of the measures to be adopted in dealing with the evils of scab and burr weed.

Agricultural Shows have been held in every district during the year, and the reports received from the officers who (with the co-operation of the European residents), organised these shows are to the effect that, although the dry season had been unfavourable to the exhibits of produce, a marked improvement was observable in the quality of young horses. The nine Arab stallions now in the country are appreciated by the native horse breeders.

The grants made in aid of education have been increased, but I think it would be well if more could be spent under this head. Arrangements have been made for an examination of the Basutoland schools and educational system during the coming year by Mr. Sargant, late Director of Education in the Transvaal and Orange River Colonies. After receiving Mr. Sargant's report and recommendations, it will be possible to recommend to what extent, and in what manner, the educational expenditure should be augmented.

In the mean time, the useful work of the aided mission schools has been steadily carried on. The returns show a slight decrease in the mean average attendance of scholars.

The buildings for the new industrial school at Maseru will soon be sufficiently advanced to enable the director to receive some pupils. In the meantime, it is proposed, during the Christmas holidays, to utilise such buildings as are completed for the purpose of a teachers' vacation course in woodwork, physics, school management, &c.

The Government Hospital at Maseru continues to receive a large number of native patients, who show keen appreciation of the comfort and skilful attention which the institution affords. The native hospitals at other stations are still of the most primitive description and I propose to recommend expenditure for an efficient and well-equipped hospital in the Leribe District.

The custody and treatment of lunatics and lepers form one of the problems which will have to be dealt with in the near future. There is no doubt, either that the number of these unfortunate people of both classes is increasing, or that they

are more in evidence, and more often brought to the notice of Government. The state of public health generally throughout the territory has been good, no epidemic outbreaks of a serious nature having occurred.

Two small police stations have been opened at Machachaneng and the Makhotlong. The first will facilitate the supervision of the traffic between the northern portion of the Leribe District and the Witzie's Hoek District in the Orange River Colony; and the station at Makhotlong will enable the officer in charge of the Qacha's Nek District to issue passes to and to check the movements of the native population in the heart of the mountains, who are much given to travelling to, and trading in, the border districts of Natal and Harrismith.

Additions to the gaol at Maseru have just been completed, and a new gaol at Qacha's Nek is being built. A new gaol at Mohales Hoek is much needed, and will be commenced during the coming year. The undertaking of building work has to be regulated by the supply of sufficient skilled labour available, and the resources of the country in this respect have been fully drawn upon during the year.

The work of accurately surveying the country and making a reliable map has been carried on by an officer of the Intelligence Department, and the map when completed will be most useful.

The state of the roads is gradually improving. Changes have been made in the terms of the contract which I trust will still further promote efficiency in road repair and maintenance.

The railway to Basutoland has already crossed the border, and is expected to be open for daily traffic before Christmas. There appears to have been no difficulty experienced by the contractors in obtaining labour for this line.

On the whole, the year reported on has been peaceful and moderately prosperous. Where the natives have failed to obtain abundant or sufficient crops the demand for native labour has enabled them to provide for their necessities. The Basuto have, during the year, behaved in accordance with their usual peaceful and law-abiding character.

In every district of the country, from the north to the south, there are disputes between neighbouring chiefs as to boundaries and land rights. Chieftainship means the control of land and people, and power of this nature is jealously competed for by every member of the house of Moshesh who may be of sufficient importance to aspire to be in charge of a piece of ground and a following. Owing to the native system of polygamy, the consequently numerous younger sons, and the disinclination of the older chiefs to definitely apportion their inheritance

among their children, boundaries overlap, and the over-lordship of many villages and fields is doubtful. Under the circumstances, it is creditable to the wisdom and moderation of the senior chiefs that so few of the many existing disputes result in brawls and bloodshed. These internal dissensions and disputes constitute the only real existing danger to the peace of the country, and absorb an undesirable proportion of the time of myself and officers.

There is much to be done in Basutoland in the way of peaceful development of the country, and I am glad to say the sense of the people appears to be entirely in this direction. A section which will probably, year by year, acquire increasing numerical importance is keen on education, Government situations for natives, the national council and control by the majority, and the removal of all disabilities to the black man.

The chiefs stand for chieftainship, which they probably quite honestly believe is the system which stands between the tribe and destruction. They support the Government and the Magisterial authority as it exists, and find the support of the Government convenient to themselves. They wisely defer generally to expressions of public feeling in the direction of restraining them from arbitrary and covetous action in dealing with their people, but in particular cases, like to act arbitrarily to show their power. They exhibit, as a rule, moderation and intelligence, and have rendered much useful service to the Government, being unreasonable and obstinate only when directly interested in disputes with their fellows.

When on their best behaviour, and amenable to instructions, they appear to be the most efficient instrument it is possible to conceive for the control of a native population.

The bulk of the people are loyally attached to the chiefs, and, for good or evil, are at their disposal.

The Paramount Chief, Lerothodi, has always given me all necessary support and assistance in dealing with public affairs. For some years he had been in failing health, and, by his neglect to follow advice, doubtless accelerated the progress of the complication of disorders which caused his death on the 19th August, 1905.

This regrettable occurrence, and the nomination by the Basuto of Letsie, the son of Lerothodi, as his father's successor, belong chronologically to the year following the one under report, but I feel that it is fitting that I should place on record in this report, an expression of appreciation of the many fine qualities of the late Paramount Chief.

Born about the year 1837, he distinguished himself in early manhood for determination and courage during the series of wars with the Boer settlers in the territory which, in 1854,

formed the Orange Free State. In the rebellion against the Cape Government in 1880, Lerothodi again took a prominent part. Since 1884, he had been a loyal supporter of the Imperial Government in Basutoland, though without permitting a single prerogative of native chieftainship to slip from his grasp. He succeeded his father Letsie in 1891, and assumed, under Government, the control of a tribe the sections of which were by no means unanimous in supporting him. For 14 years he occupied his difficult position, dexterously strengthening himself by playing off one chief against another, and at critical times unwavering in his adherence to the Government, occasionally in the teeth of the opposition of the majority of his kinsmen and people. He knew to an ounce the breaking strain of the bonds which attached the people to the chiefs, and the chiefs to each other and to himself. Though shrewd and highly diplomatic on occasion, he was naturally bold and masterful and completely fearless. He could be arbitrary, passionate, and unjust, but was not revengeful nor cruel, and in calmer moments has been known to express regret and make atonement for his hasty and inconsiderate actions.

Apart from his public character, he was generous and kind to his people; he had an attractive smile, and a sense of humour.

In this report, I would prefer not to dwell upon Lerothodi's faults, which were those which would naturally beset a man of his race and temperament and position, face to face with the oncoming tide of civilisation, a most terrible test of native character. Altogether he was no unworthy grandson of Moshesh.

The Basutoland Service has sustained a great loss in the retirement of Mr. Kennan, who was, for many years, Assistant Commissioner in the Mafeteng District, where he had performed most valuable services.

Mr. Kennan was an excellent officer, and had the confidence and respect of both the European and native community. His retirement, owing to bad health, is much to be regretted.

In conclusion, I desire to record my appreciation of the good services of the Government Secretary, the Assistant Commissioners, and the other officers of the Service.

H. C. SLOLEY,
Resident Commissioner.

Maseru,
Basutoland,

THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1904-1905.

Government Secretary's Office,
Maseru,
30th July, 1905.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward you herewith the usual Annual Reports from the Assistant Commissioners and Medical Officers of Basutoland, for the year ending 30th June, 1905. I also forward Statistical Returns for the Territory during the same period which have been compiled from these Reports and other sources.

From many points of view, the year has not been a good one. Drought, resulting in indifferent crops, and depression of trade, have together pressed heavily both on sellers and buyers. Good rains fell in the autumn, but were too late to be of much use for the current crops, and consequently mealies and Kafir corn were barely a half crop. In spite of these drawbacks the natives paid their tax well, and once more the amount paid exceeded that of the previous year.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year ended 30th June, 1905, was:—

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	62,496	10	0
Licences	3,108	8	9
Fees of Court	308	19	7
Post Office	2,768	9	8
Miscellaneous	6,818	0	0
Customs	21,533	13	6
Total ...	£97,034	1	6

The expenditure for the same period amounted to £78,837 8*s.* 2*d.*

A comparative statement is appended showing the revenue and expenditure for the last five years:—

Year ending.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
30th June, 1901	74,890	19	1	55,485	14	5
30th June, 1902	104,284	1	4	64,809	18	1
30th June, 1903	101,399	4	2	76,271	12	11
30th June, 1904	106,794	15	8	72,393	18	4
30th June, 1905	97,034	1	6	78,837	8	2

RETURN of IMPORTS and EXPORTS for the five years ending 30th June, 1905.

Year ending.		Imports.	Exports.
		£	£
30th June, 1901 ...	Dutiable Imports	145,474	361,647
30th June, 1902 ...	" "	230,680	166,894
30th June, 1903 ...	" "	191,019	258,927
30th June, 1904 ...	Total Imports	298,140	127,057
30th June, 1905 ...	" "	149,821	164,817

Hut tax was paid on 61,133 huts, while arrear hut tax collected amounted to £2,299 10*s.*, as against £2,263 last year.

IMPORTS.

Imports this year show a great falling off. This is only natural and was estimated for. I pointed out in a previous report that the quantity of goods imported into the country since the War has been abnormal, and I consider that it is only now that they are finding their proper level.

Articles.	1903–1904.	1904–1905.
	£	£
Agricultural implements	4,390	7,043
Apparel, slops, &c.	26,690	6,774
Boots, shoes, leatherware	—	7,016
Corn, grain, and meal	24,630	6,384
Cotton manufactures	50,030	24,289
Haberdashery, &c.	26,540	13,998
Hardware and rough goods	17,080	14,971
Provisions and oilman's stores ...	23,840	17,874
Woollen manufactures...	80,580	33,451
Other goods	44,360	18,021
Total	298,140	£149,821

EXPORTS.

Exports show well compared to last year, there being an increase of £37,000, and this increase would have been still greater had not the price of grain fallen. It is hard to say what would be a normal annual value of exports from Basutoland. The irregular seasons and the partial droughts of the last several years, and consequent fluctuations in prices, make it most difficult to decide what would be a fair average output.

Exports.

Articles.	Year ended 30th June, 1904.		Year ended 30th June, 1905.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£
Wheat	3,228,200	13,765	2,440,430	9,693
Mealies	2,461,600	10,106	16,289,740	33,883
Kaffir corn ...	356,400	2,444	2,246,890	7,575
Barley	—	—	14,560	51
Oats	—	—	386,980	1,487
Oat hay	—	—	161,140	487
Meal (wheaten) ...	139,400	900	90,320	629
Meal (mealie) ...	38,200	287	310,350	896
Bran	—	—	93,100	281
Potatoes	—	—	10,570	30
Hides and Skins ...	—	—	18,580	297
Wool	2,848,760	49,353	2,943,710	53,659
Mohair	399,577	12,386	443,650	13,086
	No.		No.	
Horses	347	5,496	1,071	18,730
Sheep and Goats ...	—	—	1,927	1,982
Cattle	1,284	16,740	1,521	15,266
Miscellaneous ...	—	15,580	—	468
„ (Imported)	—	—	—	6,317
Total ...	—	127,057	—	164,817

Licences.

The following licences were issued during the year :—

General trader	161
Hawkers (paid)	375
„ (free)	97
Mill licences	2
Labour Agents	142

Passes.

Passes are considerably lower than last year. The proportion was then 98 men working to 57 men visiting. This year the proportions are practically the same, viz., 86 working, as against 50 visiting. The Transvaal does not seem a very favourite field of labour for the Basuto, only 11,000 have gone to work at the Johannesburg mines during the year, and perhaps another 1,500 to work in other parts of that Colony.

As I have pointed out before, a large proportion of the Basuto do not care to make use of labour agencies, but prefer to go out and pick their own work. They travel from town to town or from farm to farm, eventually engaging themselves at such employment as appeals to them. I append a detailed return of passes issued during the year.

Passes.

Districts.	Visiting in O. R. C.	Visiting in C. C.	Visiting in Natal.	Kimberley Mines.	Johannesburg Mines.	Indwe Coal Mines.	O. R. C. Mines.	Jagersfontein Mines.	Railway Construction.	Farm and Domestic.	Miscellaneous Work.	Total.
Leribe ...	13,960	146	127	179	5,298	—	—	—	3,072	3,136	16,963	42,881
Berea	4,645	475	—	991	2,849	—	—	—	4,754	2,647	878	17,239
Maseru ...	9,744	737	—	851	1,893	5	—	—	472	471	6,480	20,653
Mafeteng ...	9,259	629	—	463	584	12	57	2,875	50	9,238	4,704	27,871
Mohales Hoek	1,095	1,232	—	806	208	97	90	835	—	2,835	2,053	9,251
Quthing ...	303	4,334	—	21	76	52	—	153	—	—	3,136	8,075
Qacha's Nek ...	41	2,767	130	11	82	24	—	—	54	1,296	5,404	9,809
Total ...	39,047	10,320	257	3,322	10,990	190	147	3,863	8,402	19,623	39,618	135,779

Summary of Passes.

—	Visiting.	Labour.
O. R. C.	39,047	12,412
C. C.	10,320	3,512
Natal	257	—
Transvaal	—	10,990
	49,624	26,914
Farm and domestic (unstated locality) ...	—	19,623
Miscellaneous (unstated locality)... ...	—	39,618
	49,624	86,155
Total	135,779	

Native Deposit and Remittance.

I received through the Native Affairs Department, Transvaal, the sum of £5,009 9*s.* 6*d.*, being remittances sent by native labourers to their friends and relatives here—this is considerably less than last year.

Police and Judicial.

I attach police and gaol returns for the territory, from which you will note that much hard patrolling work has been done by the police force, which is armed, mounted, and equipped efficiently, and is practically at its full strength.

Police State.

European officers	14
„ constables	3
Native officers	3
„ constables	4
„ sergeants	8
„ corporals	10
„ privates	236

Police and Patrol Return.

Number of patrols	1,810
„ men on patrol	2,225
„ miles patrolled	47,978
Arrests under liquor laws	35
„ „ pass laws	195
Other offences	84

Gaol Return.

Prisoners received into gaol	328
„ convicted	274
„ discharged unconvicted ...	39
„ in gaol 30th June, 1905 ...	101
Floggings inflicted	Nil

Judicial Cases.

The following judicial cases were heard in the courts of the Assistant Commissioners :—

Culpable homicide	10
Theft	67
Pass regulations	211
Trading regulations	44
Resisting police	9
Assault	19
Other crimes	62
Rape	2
Civil cases	16

Lost Stock.

I attach a return of lost stock for the past year. There appears to be little theft on the border, and though a good deal of stock is reported as lost, it is by no means necessarily stolen, and only a small amount is actually traced into Basutoland.

Lost Stock Return.

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	73	17	56	17	56
Cattle	47	8	39	8	39
Sheep and goats	1,536	138	1,398	143	1,393

Education.

As regards education, an increased grant has been made to the Basutoland schools this year. I append a return giving details of the amount expended and of the year's work, from which it will be seen that attendances have fallen off slightly during the past year.

Education Return.

—	1903–1904.	1904–1905.
Expenditure	£6,312 10*s.* 6*d.*	£7,833 9*s.* 2*d.*
Schools	217	219
Scholars	13,660	13,228
Mean average attendance	10,401	9,963

Postal and Telegraph.

The Postmaster General, Cape Town, has kindly placed at my disposal figures showing the post office and telegraphic business done by Basutoland during the year, of which a return is submitted.

Correspondence.

Letters posted in Basutoland	347,894
„ received into Basutoland	327,145

Money Orders.

		£	*s.*	*d.*
Issued	5,157—Value	13,261	16	7
Paid	2,358 „	7,689	8	7

Savings Bank.

		£	*s.*	*d.*
Deposits ...	171—Value	1,482	0	6
Withdrawals ...	128 „	2,626	2	6

Telegraphs.

The Revenue from this source collected in the Territory amounted to £904 14*s.* 6*d.*

Postal Notes.

		£	*s.*	*d.*
Issued	697—Value	278	5	0
Paid	1,205 „	604	9	6

The average rainfall for the year was 27·66 inches.

I have, &c.,

L. Wroughton,

Government Secretary.

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S ANNUAL REPORTS, 1904-1905.

ANNUAL REPORT—LERIBE DISTRICT, 1904-1905.

There has been little change in the political situation in this district, during the past year.

The sons of Letsika have been placed out at Makhoakheng with, perhaps, a little more than the usual amount of bickering due to the ill-feeling which exists between Letsika and the sons of his younger brother, especially the sons of the late Lekopa. These, not unnaturally, consider it a grievance to have a superior thrust upon them with whom they are at variance, and do all in their power to make his position as difficult as possible. At Makhoakhoeng, they are able to do this with more success than in other places, by reason of Letsika's weakness, caused by his quarrel with his eldest son, described in my report of the year before last.

This quarrel, I regret to say, is as acute as ever, and the present result of it is that all the younger sons of Matela and their descendants support Thakabanna against his father, and probably form the majority of the tribe.

Things at Tsime are much as they were last year. There is a sort of passive hostility between Joel and his younger brother Hlasoa, which frequently shows itself in acts of aggression on the one side and provocation on the other. These are settled locally as they occur, but the settlement under present circumstances can only be in the nature of patchwork.

Perhaps the most difficult question in this district is the position of Motsueni. It has been reported upon so often that it is not necessary to go over the ground again, but it is necessary to allude to it as a standing danger to the peace of the district. Last November an act of almost intolerable provocation on the part of Motsueni resulted in bloodshed, and both he and Jonathan were punished, but the danger still exists and will continue until something is done to define Motsueni's position here or elsewhere.

The two eldest sons of Jonathan have now grown up, and I regret to say are very bad friends. They are, however, living at a distance from each other, and I do not anticipate any serious trouble between them, at any rate during Jonathan's life. They are both well educated and intelligent young men, and under good guidance should become good chiefs.

I regret to record the death of the Chief Seetsa Molapo which occurred last January. He was still a young man and such influence as he had was always exercised for good.

It is satisfactory to record that, notwithstanding all the elements of discord which exist, the attitude and conduct of the chiefs has been on the whole very satisfactory.

Trade has been depressed during the past year and does not show much sign of reviving. A partial crop has been reaped, but the quality of the grain is not equal to that produced in neighbouring Colonies.

I attach a report by the officer in charge at Butha Buthe. The statistics which follow are for the whole district, inclusive of Butha Buthe.

The total Hut Tax is £332 10*s.* 0*d.* short of that collected last year. The shortage of the amount is in the Butha Buthe collection, and is due to the amount of arrears collected there last year, which swelled the total to quite an abnormal figure.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

REVENUE.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Hut tax	15,165	10	0
Licences	569	10	0
Fines	130	17	6
Fees of Court or Office	4	16	10
Transfer of Licences	0	12	6
Registration of Marriages	4	2	6
Miscellaneous	301	10	2
Total	£16,176	19	6

Tax has been paid on 14,712 huts.

Of the amount of hut tax the sum of £745 10*s.* 0*d.* represents arrears.

LICENCES.

The number of licences issued is as under :—

General traders	51
Hawkers (paid)...	42
„ (free)...	4
Labour Agents	16

Passes.

The following is a return of passes issued :—

Visiting Orange River Colony ...	13,960
„ Cape Colony	146
To Kimberley	179
„ Railway construction	3,072
„ Johannesburg	5,298
„ Agricultural	3,136
„ Indwe coal mines	Nil.
„ Natal and Zululand	127
Miscellaneous work	16,963
Total	£42,881

Remittances.

Remittances from natives in Johannesburg to their friends and relatives in Basutoland, through the Native Affairs Department Remittance Agency, to the amount of £2,427 9*s*. 0*d*. have been received and paid out.

Police.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Inspector	1
Sub-inspectors	2
Native sergeants	2
„ corporals	3
„ lance-corporals	1
„ 1st class privates...	14
„ 2nd class privates	40
„ officers	1
European constable	1

Patrols.

Number of patrols	187
„ men employed	363
Estimated distance travelled	6,808 miles.

And the following arrests have been made :—

(*a*) Contravening liquor laws	2
(*b*) „ pass „	118
(*c*) Other offences...	47

Cases Tried.

The following cases have been tried during the year :—

Assault	9
Homicide	3
Theft	17
Fraud	1
Resisting the police	3
Contravening customs regulations	2
„ pass „	112
„ trading „	1
Contempt of court	2
Other cases	15
	165
Civil cases	4

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	74
„ „ convicted and sentenced ...	59
„ „ discharged unconvicted ...	11
Awaiting trial	4
Number of prisoners in gaol on 30th June, 1905...	15

LOST OR STOLEN STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	19	5	14	6	13
Cattle	7	4	3	4	3
Sheep	57	12	45	11	46
Goats	56	25	31	31	25
Mules	8	—	8	—	8

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Kaffir corn, per muid	10*s.*
Mealies, „	7*s.*
Wheat, „	15*s.*
Oat hay, per 100 bundles... ...	15*s.*
Ponies	£15 to £20.
Cattle	£7 to £10.
Sheep and goats	£1 to £1 10*s.*
Wool, per lb.	2*d.* to 4*d.*
Mohair, per lb.	7*d.* to 9*d.*

J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

Leribe,
30th June, 1905.

ANNUAL REPORT—BUTHA BUTHE WARD, 1904–1905.

The political conditions of this Ward are quite of a normal character. The only incident of importance to record is the "placing out" of five of Chief Letsika's sons, among his brothers in different parts of the Makhoakhoa Ward. This was effected in September last. As is usual in such cases, there was some opposition by the original occupiers, but so far the change has worked with comparative smoothness.

The relations between Chief Joel and his younger brother Hlasoa, are still somewhat strained, but they have recently shown signs of improvement, and any points of difference arising between them are easily dealt with locally.

The collection of hut tax during the year has been very satisfactory. The total amount is less than that of last year, but this is accounted for by the fact that during that year a number of natives were discovered who were in arrears, and they were made to pay for back years. This year the current tax exceeds that of last year by £15, and the number of huts on which tax was paid has increased by over 1,000 since 1899.

Considering the enormous native population in the Ward, the almost total absence of stock thefts from the Orange River Colony is remarkable. I attribute it to the excellent work performed by the Native Police, and to a system of co-operation with the chiefs and headmen.

A police post consisting of a sergeant and four privates has been established in the Machachaneng Valley. This proves a great boon to natives living in that part of the Ward, as they can obtain passes there, instead of having to travel the long distance to Butha Buthe. It also brings us into closer communication with the police stationed in the Witzies Hoek, and Harrismith Districts.

There have been very few cases of serious crime during the year.

The main roads in the Ward are now in excellent order.

W. D. P. MANSEL,

Inspector, B. M. P.,

Officer in Charge.

ANNUAL REPORT—BEREA DISTRICT, 1904–1905.

On the whole, the state of the district has been much the same as during the previous year. But the usual boundary disputes have been rather more numerous than before.

In August I was enabled to settle a dispute between Leshoboro and Sauer as to the exact line of their boundary just over Mokhoma's village. It may be noted that at this time Sauer raised no question as to the boundary at any other spot.

For months Masupha and Koali were continually complaining of each other's conduct, and more than once messengers were sent by the Paramount Chief to try to settle matters, but without much effect.

On the 9th May the Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief met here to inquire into, and give judgment in, the disputes between the two young chiefs. I have not been able to see Masupha or Koali yet, but I am told that there is still great ill-feeling between them about certain lands.

Some months ago the Paramount Chief, in reply to a message from Masupha, explained what he considered to be the true boundary line between this district and that of Maseru. I do not think this new line was every heard of before. This question will, I believe, shortly be seen to.

Just lately Sauer has made a new claim. He now states that the Khalaheng River, and not the line of krantzes, is the real boundary between him and Leshoboro. This is quite a new idea so far as I am aware, and, as I have pointed out, Sauer said nothing about it in August last. I have not yet seen Sauer himself on the subject.

On June the 7th an Agricultural Show was held here. The cattle and horses were very good. Very little grain was shown, but the quality was good. Five foals, bred from our Arab stallion, Sinbad, were shown, and were of very fair quality.

The hut tax has been paid up better and quicker than last year, Peete being the only chief who has not paid more.

There has not been much serious crime in the district during the period under review.

I submit the usual returns :—

Revenue.

	£	s	d.
Hut tax	6,743	0	0
Licences	264	10	0
Fines	23	17	6
Fees of Court	3	18	6
Miscellaneous...	11	5	0
Total ...	£7,046	11	0

Tax was paid on 6,539 huts. Amount of arrear tax was £380.

Licences.

The following licences were issued :—

General traders	24
Hawkers (paid)	16
„ (free)	2
Labour agents	13
Mill licences	1

Passes.

The following are the numbers who took passes during the year :—

Visiting Orange River Colony	4,645
„ Cape Colony	475
Kimberley mines	991
Railway construction	4,754
Johannesburg mines	2,849
Agriculture...	2,647
Miscellaneous work	878
	17,239

Native Remittances.

Remittances from natives in Johannesburg to their friends and relatives in Basutoland, £342 11*s.* 6*d.*

Police.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-Inspector	1
Native Sergeant	1
Native Corporal	1
Native Lance-corporal	1
Privates	24

Patrols.

The following patrols were sent out during the year :—

Number of patrols	343
,, men employed	664
,, miles covered	5,471
,, arrests under liquor laws ...	4
,, ,, ,, pass laws ...	27
Other offences	3

Cases tried.

The following cases were tried in the Court of the Assistant Commissioner :—

Contravening pass laws	31
,, liquor laws	4
,, trading regulations	1
Culpable homicide	2
Assault	2
Arson	1
Other cases	6
Civil cases	4

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol ...	16
,, ,, convicted and sentenced	15
,, ,, discharged unconvicted	14
Handed over to Orange River Colony ...	1
In gaol on the 30th June, 1905	6

Lost Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	—	—	—	—	—
Cattle	4	4	—	4	—
Sheep and goats	—	—	—	—	—

Prices of Stock and Produce.

Cattle—Cows	£8 to £10
Oxen	£10 to £12
Horses	£10 to £15
Sheep	25*s.* to 30*s.*
Goats	10*s.* to 15*s.*
Wheat (per bag)	15*s.*
Mealies „	6*s.* to 8*s.*
Kaffir corn „	8*s.* to 10*s.*
Wool (per lb.)	Fine, 4*d.*, coarse, 1½*d.*
Mohair „	5*d.*

W. Boxwell,

Assistant Commissioner.

Berea,
Basutoland,
30th June, 1905.

ANNUAL REPORT—MASERU DISTRICT, 1904-1905.

In reviewing the events of the past twelve months I have much pleasure in reporting that the peace of the district has been undisturbed, with the exception of a small tribal fight which took place in the Chief Maama's Ward, between the inhabitants of two small villages over the question of trespass of cattle in cultivated lands. Only sticks and stones were used in the *melée*, but unfortunately one man was seriously wounded and subsequently died. The case was heard in my court with native assessors assisting, and the ringleaders imprisoned, and every one who could be proved to have taken part in the fight fined.

The disputed boundary line between the Paramount Chief and the Chief Maama has not yet been settled, and is a cause of friction between these two chiefs.

I regret to have to report that the Paramount Chief has been drinking more heavily than usual within the last twelve months, and it is not unusual for him to be incapable of attending to his work for days at a time, thereby causing serious inconvenience to people who go to his court for cases needing settlement.

On the 2nd January the pontoon on the River Caledon was submerged by an extraordinary sudden rise in the river during the night, and, notwithstanding the most strenuous endeavours, it was found quite impossible to raise it, and, as the river remained in flood for some weeks, serious inconvenience was caused to traffic. The accident was quite unavoidable.

The railway from Marseilles, in the Orange River Colony, to Maseru is nearing completion, the rails being already laid as far as the Caledon River, and it is hoped that the line will be open for traffic before the end of the year. The bridge is to be both road and rail, and will be a tremendous boon to the country.

The hospital at Maseru has adequately proved its necessity, and has been almost continuously filled, the number of patients necessitating the enrolment of an additional nursing sister. The general health of the district has been good. Three small outbreaks of small-pox have been reported during the year, and police were sent out to vaccinate the people in the immediate vicinities; only one death was reported. It is most noticeable and highly gratifying to note the ardour with which vaccination is asked for by the natives on the appearance of any disease

resembling small-pox amongst them. Vaccination is not compulsory in Basutoland, but experience has taught the native its efficiency.

The reservoir referred to in my last annual report has been completed, and holds 100,000 gallons of water. The present supply of water is only 11,000 gallons in the 24 hours, and is inadequate for the growing needs of the village, and consequently has to be used with economy.

During the year under review, the building of a Government Industrial School, under the Directorship of the Rev. Nelson Fogarty, has been started, and it is expected that it will be ready to receive pupils in October next. The majority of the necessary buildings are approaching completion. A girls' Industrial School, under the auspices of the English Church will also shortly be started, a staff of three lady teachers having already arrived.

The work of tree planting on the Reserve has been steadily persisted in, but it is impossible to fence in all the plantations and the results, owing to damage from stock, are not so good as they might be. Numbers of young trees from the nursery have been issued free of charge, with a view of encouraging individuals to plant on their own account.

Religious instruction and educational work are carried on with increasingly satisfactory results by the missionaries of the Paris Evangelical Mission Society, and the English and Roman Catholic Churches. The English Church have just put in the foundations of a new church at Maseru, the money for the building of which has been collected by Deaconess Maria Burton, to whose energy and perseverance in itinerating the country on the unpleasant duty of soliciting subscriptions will be a standing memorial when finished. There are also isolated congregations and schools of the American Methodist Episcopal Church scattered over the country, but owing to the internal schisms in this church it is not making much headway.

There has been little disease amongst stock during the year. A rather serious outbreak of glanders amongst the horses of the Post contractor in Maseru was dealt with by the Veterinary Officer, who destroyed, with the consent of the owner, all animals showing visible symptoms. All stock is in good condition. Agents have been buying up remounts for the German Government for service in German West Africa, and consequently the price of horses has been abnormally high. There are two Government Arab stallions at this station, and natives are bringing their mares in increased numbers for cover, which is free of charge.

An agricultural show was held at Maseru on the 24th May, and proved a great success, perhaps the most noticeable feature

of the show being the number and quality of the young Arab stock exhibited.

Trade has been very depressed during the year, the wheat crop having proved an entire failure. The mealie and Kaffir corn crops have been fair, but the natives are holding and not selling until they are in a position to see what the prospect of the ensuing crop will be.

The roads in the District are in fairly good order. The need for a bridge over the little Caledon River is very great, and I trust it will not be long before the Government will be in a position to authorise its construction.

I attach a list of the usual Annual Returns.

Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax...	11,119	10	0
Licences	403	10	0
Fines	77	13	0
Ferry tolls	81	10	3
Fees of court or office... ...	11	16	0
Miscellaneous receipts... ...	56	16	0
Total	£11,750	15	3

Tax was paid on 10,906 huts, and arrear tax amounting to £447 10*s.* was collected.

Licences.

The number of licences issued is as under :—

General traders	28
Hawkers (paid)	77
„ (free)	13
Labour agents	60

Passes.

The following is a return of passes issued :—

To Kimberley	851
„ Johannesburg (Mines)	1,893
„ Johnannesburg (Municipality) ...	1,854
„ Indwe coal mines	5
„ Railway construction	472
„ Agricultural	471
„ Miscellaneous work	4,626
„ Visiting in Orange River Colony	9,744
„ „ „ Cape Colony	737
Total	20,653

Remittances from Johannesburg.

Remittances from natives in Johannesburg to their friends and relatives in Basutoland, through the Native Affairs Department Remittance Agency, to the amount of £932 13*s.* 6*d.* have been received and paid out.

Police.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is:—

Sub-inspector	1
European constables	1
Native „	2
„ sergeant	1
„ corporals	2
„ lance-corporal	1
„ privates	55

Patrols.

Number of patrols	516
„ men employed	577
Estimated distance travelled (miles) ...	6,838

And the following arrests have been made:—

Contravening liquor laws	1
„ pass „	12
Other offences	1

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	72
„ „ discharged unconvicted ...	11
„ „ convicted and sentenced ...	61
„ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1905 ...	36

No floggings were inflicted.

Cases Tried.

The following cases have been tried during the year:—

Assault	4
Breach of the peace	11
Contravening liquor regulations	2
„ pass laws	3
„ trading regulations ...	4
Culpable homicide	1
Fraud	1
Offences under gaol discipline	1
Master and Servants Act	5
Police Offences Act	6
Theft	18
Civil cases	1

Lost Stock.

Description.	Reported Lost.	Traced into Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	12	2	10	2	10
Cattle	1	—	1	—	1
Sheep	26	1	25	1	25

Prices of Stock and Produce.

The following are current prices for stock and produce :—

Cattle	... ...	£8 to £12 each.
Horses	... ...	£15 to £30 „
Sheep	... ...	18*s.* to 30*s.* „
Goats	... ...	15*s.* to 20*s.* „
Wheat	... ...	16*s.* to 20*s.* per bag.
Mealies	... ...	6*s.* to 10*s.* „
Kaffir corn	... ...	8*s.* to 14*s.* „
Wool	... ...	3*d.* to 4*d.* per lb
Mohair	... ...	6*d.* to 8*d.* „

Chas. E. Boyes,
Assistant Commissioner.

Maseru,
30th June, 1905.

ANNUAL REPORT—MAFETENG DISTRICT, 1904-1905.

An important boundary question between Chief Seiso Letsie and the Ba-Mohale, respecting land at Makhaleng, was satisfactorily dealt with in February, 1905, when a proper division of arable land was made to the persons who claimed the ground. A similar dispute of long standing, between Chief Moyela Kyaole and Chief Azariel again came under consideration, and a definite boundary regulating rights to gardens at Nyaole's was defined.

This settlement, however, only dealt with one of Chief Moyela's complaints, and he is still pressing for the adjustment of the boundary of his Ward, towards Tsieta's Nek.

The Chiefs in the district have rendered loyal service to Government in regard to all duties I called upon them to perform.

Good water was very scarce at the Mafeteng Magistracy during the last few years, and, for health reasons, it became necessary to bring water from a distance to the village. A pipe line was laid from springs at Ramathlepe's and a splendid supply of pure water now constantly flows into the reservoir, and the village is well supplied. This is a boon which is greatly appreciated by the community.

The pleasant work of tree planting was continued on the Government Reserve during last summer, and the labour was attended with considerable success. The new Government garden improved this year, and a number of useful plants were raised, and also some thousands of young trees for planting out on the Reserve, and elsewhere.

A sheep-dip was erected at Mafeteng. It is built on the approved plan of Government sheep-dip tanks in Cape Colony. It is well patronised by native sheep owners, and since it was opened, a few weeks before the cold weather set in, 10,600 sheep have passed through.

Further attempts at donga stopping, by means of building stone walls across the sluits, were tried with some success.

Religious instruction and educational work is carried on satisfactorily by the various missionary societies. I have furnished a separate report on the condition of schools in the District.

I have pleasure in acknowledging the cordial co-operation of officers of the Orange River Colony Government in connection with official matters during the past year.

I forward the Medical Officer's report relative to the health of the district.

A few swarms of locusts passed through the district during the summer, and did a little damage to the veldt and growing crops.

The drought was severe, and the rainfall registered at Mafeteng during the 12 months only amounted to 21·79 inches, and most of this fell during the last quarter.

The wheat crop was very poor, and might be called a failure. The native farmers then hoped that they would gather in sufficient food when their mealie and kaffir corn crops were harvested; these crops, unfortunately, did not begin to mature until late, and frost affected them badly, particularly the kaffir corn, and therefore, they are not good in this part of the country.

The following are the usual annual returns:—

Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	9,857	0	0
Licences	337	10	0
Fines...	36	10	0
Fees of Court	16	0	6
Miscellaneous	343	16	4
	£10,590	16	10

The number of huts upon which tax was paid is 9,689. Amount of arrear tax paid was £362.

The district hut tax was very well paid last year.

Licences.

The number of licences issued is as under:—

General traders'	23
Hawkers' licences (paid)	87
„ „ (free)	62
Labour agents' licences	35

Trade was depressed owing to the buying power of the natives being very limited on account of repeated bad harvests, but happily the labouring classes returning from work in adjacent Colonies brought a considerable amount of cash into the country.

A number of burghers of the Orange River Colony availed themselves of the privilege of "free hawker's licences," and exchanged the raw products of the Orange River Colony for sheep and goats, &c., in Basutoland.

Authorized agents of the German Government purchased a considerable number of Basuto ponies for remount purposes in Damaraland.

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Wheat, per bag	20*s.*
Mealies „	10*s.*
Kaffir corn „	14*s.*
Barley „	10*s.*
Oats „	12*s.*
Oat hay, per 100 bundles	25*s.*
Slaughter cattle, each	£10 to £12 12*s.*
Basuto riding ponies, each...	£15 to £20
Sheep (breeding) „	14*s.* to 18*s.*
„ (slaughter) „	20*s.* to 25*s.*
Goats (breeding) „	15*s.* to 18*s.*
Wool, per lb	5*d.*
Mohair „	9*d.*

On the East London and Port Elizabeth markets Basutoland grease wool ruled one halfpenny per lb. higher than wool of the same class from the Orange River Colony. This fact is interesting to note, on account of the authorities of the Orange River Colony having recently placed restrictions on the introduction of Basutoland sheep into the Orange River Colony, owing to their supposed scabby condition.

The annual agricultural show was held at Mafeteng in May. The exhibits were numerous and interesting, but unfortunately the weather was not favourable, being cold and wet on the occasion.

PASSES ISSUED.

Visiting Orange River Colony	9,259
„ Cape Colony	629
Domestic service, Cape Colony	470
„ „ Orange River Colony	8,500
Kimberley mines	463
Jagersfontein „	2,875
Koffyfontein „	28
Johannesburg „	584
Railway construction	50
Agricultural labour	268
Indwe coal mines	12
Viljoen's Drift coal mines	29
Miscellaneous work	4,704
Total	27,871

The number of Basuto who went out to work shows well for their industrial habits. The Johannesburg mines are not popular, because the period of service is considered too long.

The "Deposit and Remittance Agency," Johannesburg, fowarded £707 0*s.* 6*d.* to this Office for natives returning from work.

Police.

Sub-inspector	1
Native officer	1
„ constables	2
„ sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ privates	32

The police detachment is efficient, and has done excellent service during the past twelve months. I regret to record the death of Sergeant Job, an old and faithful Government servant.

Headquarters are at Mafeteng, and men are stationed at ports of entry on the frontier for patrol purposes.

Patrols.

Number of patrols	401
„ men employed	162
„ miles patrolled	8,212
„ arrests	11
„ arrests for contravening liquor regulations	10
„ arrests for contravening pass regulations	3

The under-mentioned cases were tried in the Assistant Commissioner's court :—

Civil cases	3
Pass regulations	4
Theft	5
Culpable homicide	2
Section No. 7, liquor regulations	12
Trading regulations	2
Other offences	3

There was very little serious crime in the district.

Return of Lost and Stolen Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Recovered in Orange River Colony.	Not recovered.
Horses ...	15	3	12	3	—	12
Cattle ...	14	—	14	—	—	14
Sheep ...	153	36	117	—	36	117
Goats ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received in gaol	...	...	27
,,	,,	discharged unconvicted ...	10
,,	,,	convicted and sentenced ...	15
,,	,,	in gaol 30th June, 1905 ...	12

No floggings were inflicted during the year.

T. P. Kennan,

Assistant Commissioner.

Mafeteng,
30th June, 1905.

MOHALES HOEK ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1905.

In reviewing the events of the twelve months just ended, it is satisfactory to note the general improvement, both political and economical, in all directions. Tribal disputes have greatly diminished, none worthy of record having taken place during the period under report.

Certain of the minor Baputi chiefs and headmen were arrested and tried in February last for contempt of Court and contumacious conduct. Five were found guilty and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment. The two ringleaders were removed from the district gaol; and, by consent of the Resident Commissioner, transferred to that of Maseru. The action taken has had a most beneficial and salutary effect on the Baputi clan generally.

Relations with adjacent territories are satisfactory.

Crime of all description is to a great extent on the decrease.

Reports of stock thefts from the adjacent territories have only occurred at rare intervals, and in the few cases traced to Basutoland the stock has been all recovered and the offenders punished. Within the district itself stock is gradually recovering, so far as their number is concerned, from the ravages of the rinderpest of former years, and there is already a very noticeable change to be observed on the feeding grounds of the district in the quality and quantity of the grazing herds.

The return of the hut tax shows a very substantial increase over that of last year, and is significant to a great degree of the increasing population of the district and of its continued prosperity.

I regret to have to report that the mealie and kaffir corn harvest has been, with a few exceptions here and there, below the general average. The long continued drought, at a time when rain was most needed, conduced to a general failure, which was rendered the more complete by the frequent visitation of swarms of locusts.

The continued misfortune of bad seasons has also to a considerable extent deterred the natives from sowing wheat on their lands. So much so that they have almost come to regard it as an unprofitable speculation, and the samples exhibited at the district Agricultural Show failed to obtain either an award or recommendation from the judges.

The good results arising from the institution of the police outpost at Phatlalla drift are well maintained in the decrease of the number of arrests for liquor running.

Quarters and stabling have recently been provided for the better accommodation of the police, and they are now able to effectually patrol the chief boundary, which forms the natural line of entry for those attempting to contravene the liquor regulations of the country.

During the past twelve months great progress has been made in the roads of the district. The increase in plant and in the number of overseers and labourers employed at different points has resulted in more substantial and lasting work being put into the roads.

The want of a proper water supply still entails many hardships on the residents, dependent as they are upon a meagre and single spring within the magistracy grounds. Apart from the fact that horses are continually led through the private grounds to be watered, every drop has to be drawn by hand and in the majority of instances conveyed considerable distances.

The Arab stallion stabled at this station for stud purposes is fully patronised by the natives. I regret, however, to notice that in the majority of instances reported, the foals have not been a success. A want of ordinary attention with regard to the mares and afterwards as regards the proper welfare of their young has resulted in the progeny in most cases being a discredit to their sire.

The health of the district is satisfactory, and is embodied in the report of the Medical Officer for the district.

The following are the usual annual returns.

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	9,838	10	0
Licences	260	10	0
Fines	251	0	0
Fees of court	5	1	0
Miscellaneous	120	7	0
Total ...	£10,475	8	0

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 9,667.

Amount of arrear tax paid was £213 10*s*.

LICENCES.

General traders' licences	18
Hawkers' (paid)	66
„ (free)	4
Labour agents	17
Dam licence	1

Passes.

Johannesburg mines	208
Kimberley	806
Jagersfontein	835
Indwe	97
Orange River Colony	90
Cape Colony	1,232
Visiting Orange River Colony ...	1,095
Agriculture	2,835
Miscellaneous	2,053
Total	9,251

Deposit and Remittance.

Remittances received from Johannesburg, £256 19*s*.

Police.

Sub-inspector	1
European constable	1
Native officer	1
„ sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ lance-corporal	1
„ privates	22
„ special police	4
Total	33

Patrols.

Number of patrols	156
„ „ men employed	230
„ „ miles patrolled	10,540
„ „ arrests	—
Contravening Pass Laws	13
„ liquor regulations ...	15
Miscellaneous offences	11

Criminal Cases and Civil Cases.

Number of cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Theft	9
Culpable homicide	1
Resisting police	4
Contempt of Court	5
Pass regulations	9
Trading regulations	4
Section VII.	3
Civil cases	3

No floggings were inflicted.

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	44
" " " sentenced	42
" " " discharged unconvicted ...	2
" " " removed to other gaols ...	3
" " " in gaol on 30th June, 1905	11

LOST STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	3	2	1	2	1
Cattle	7	—	7	—	7
Sheep and Goats	107	—	107	—	107

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Horses	£10 to £25
Cattle	£8 to £14
Sheep	10*s.* to 30*s.*
Mealies (per bag)	8*s.* to 16*s.*
Kaffir corn "	30*s.*
Wheat "	25*s.*

There has been no outbreak of infectious disease in the district during the twelve months under report.

J. W. BOWKER,

Assistant Commissioner.

Mohales Hoek,
30th June, 1905.

ANNUAL REPORT—QUTHING DISTRICT, 1904-1905.

There has been the usual crop of petty disputes and complaints during the year, involving much apparent waste of time in the sifting process.

A peculiarity of land questions in this District, which involves frequent reference to the Government in respect of matters ordinarily settled by native chiefs, arises from the fact that a considerable portion of the population was located here by the Cape Colonial Government in 1882-3; being largely composed of loyal natives who supported the Government during the Gun War (1880-1) and who were, in consequence, given locations by the Government, in Quthing District, in lieu of their places in other parts of Basutoland, to which they were unable to return for political reasons.

These people have from the commencement, protested against the arbitrary rule of the chiefs; and owing to their having received their locations from Government, they are disposed to resent too much interference on the part of the district chief. On the other hand, this chief and his particular following, being (perhaps naturally) jealous of the position claimed by these people, are apt to assert authority more frequently and harshly than might be the case under ordinary conditions. It is not surprising, under the circumstances, that these people should look for Government support when their rights are infringed upon; but investigating their complaints involves a considerable amount of work in this office of a special kind, not common to districts in the territory.

The appointment of the young chief Simpe as chief of the District in place of his deceased father, has not hitherto been a conspicuous success. He is disposed to be despotic, and impatient of Government control; and his most intimate advisers are not the stamp of men calculated to make his rule popular.

He has lately been endeavouring to work upon the Paramount Chief to reverse, or reconsider, judgment delivered by that Chief during his visit to Quthing in March, 1904, in favour of some of the persons referred to in Section 1 of this report. Owing to Simpe's attitude, most of these decisions are still in abeyance, and this is causing a regrettable amount of friction.

A tribal disturbance took place in July, 1904, originating in an attempt of Nehemiah Moshesh to collect a fine of cattle from a man of his, who was coquetting between him and Chief Simpe. A number of Simpe's followers attacked Nehemiah, deprived him of the cattle he had seized, and drove him several miles toward his own village. This case is still under discussion. Justice

among the Basuto is apt to travel slowly when the Chiefs are involved. There appears to be a disposition to ignore the right of Nehemiah to the location where this disturbance took place; although it forms part of the country allotted to him under the Cape Government in 1882–3. It is, of course, undesirable that an arrangement made by a former Government should, after being recognised and respected for upwards of 20 years, be altered or ignored at the caprice of a native Chief.

I regret to have to report renewed interference on the part of the chief of the district with the tribal rights and the family affairs of the Tembu Chief, Stock-Tyali. Owing to this interference, Stock's principal son is, with the connivance of Chief Simpe, claiming chieftainship, and acting generally in opposition to his father's wishes, to a serious extent.

At the combined Court held at Mohales Hoek in March, 1903, the late chief, Nkuebe Letsie, was ordered to desist from meddling with the internal affairs of these Tembus, and for some time the practice appeared to have received a check, but Simpe appears to regard the order of the Court as not binding on him, and matters are becoming strained in that quarter.

Three years of drought in succession have told heavily on the resources of the natives. The wheat crop this year was again almost a total failure, and oats, maize, and Kaffir corn, have all suffered extensively. The poor exhibition of cereals at the Agricultural Show recently held here plainly indicated the scarcity from which the people are suffering.

I regret to say that noxious weeds of various species appear to be on the increase in the territory. Several varieties of burrs, of which perhaps the worst are Xanthium Spinosum, and Steek grass (Aristida Congesta and Andropogon Contortus) are all detrimental to wool and mohair, and a plant, locally known as Thepe (Amaranthus hyphondriacus) is smothering all cultivated land. This latter weed has spread prodigiously during the last twelve months. There is also a species of grass known by the Boers as "dronk-grass," which is said to have a stupefying effect on horses, and to cause them after eating it to blunder blindly into sluits and over precipices. Fortunately this grass is not generally distributed.

The Arab stud horse "Farsang," a Managhi ibn Sbeyel, from Mr. Blunt's stud, has been standing at this station for two seasons, and a few of his foals were exhibited at the show held at Moyeni on the 3rd instant. They appeared very promising, with nice quality and substance, and were, in spite of rough winter coats, easily to be distinguished from the ordinary pony foals of which some were also exhibited.

If the natives generally were able to take proper care of the mares they are sending to the various Arab stallions in Basutoland, a marked improvement in the quality of their ponies might

be expected. Their difficulty lies in the fact that the lower and more habitable parts of the country are much overstocked and grazing is scarce, while if the mares are sent into the mountains to the summer pastures there is great risk of their going wrong, owing to the numbers of inferior pony stallions running at large in that region. Efforts have been made to induce the chiefs of the country to order a general castration of the more useless of these stallions, but it is difficult to persuade native chiefs to enforce measures of public utility, and very little has hitherto been done in this direction.

The year has been a healthy one for all classes of live stock and there has been a marked absence of disease among cattle.

It is unfortunate that owing to previous seasons being poor very few natives here possess any seed wheat, as owing to recent snow and rain the present appears to be a favourable season for ploughing.

A fair amount of work has been done on the principal roads and bridle paths this year, and they are on the whole in passable order. Something has also been done toward re-opening the road over Mokochomela Pass in the direction of Ongeluk's Nek and East Griqualand.

Owing to the severe drought prevailing up to the end of the year 1904, it was feared that the camp water supply might fail altogether. Preliminary steps have been taken towards obtaining a further supply from permanent springs. The whole of the waterworks require thorough overhauling.

The work of donga prevention and tree planting has been continued with a fair amount of success.

The following returns are attached :—

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	6,295	0	0
Licences	180	10	0
Fines	193	0	6
Ferry tolls	138	17	6
Fees of court	3	0	0
Miscellaneous	95	3	9
Total	£6,905	11	9

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 6,182.

Amount of arrear tax paid, £63.

Licences.

General traders' licences	14
Hawkers' licences (paid)	40
„ „ (free)	12
Labour agent's licence	1

Lost or Stolen Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	14	4	10	4	10
Cattle	8	—	8	—	8
Sheep	108	49	59	49	59
Goats	5	—	5	—	5

Passes Issued.

Visitors to Cape Colony	4,334
„ Orange River Colony	303
Selling produce in Cape Colony	862
Riding transport in Cape Colony	368
„ Orange River Colony ...	6
Working in Cape Colony	1,647
„ Orange River Colony	253
„ Johannesburg mines	76
„ Jagersfontein mines	153
„ Kimberley mines	21
„ Indwe	52
Total	8,075

Cases Tried.

Civil actions	1
Theft	14
Contravening pass regulations	49
„ trading „	3
Obstructing police	1
Culpable homicide	1
Assault	3
Resisting Arrest	1
Rape	2
Obtaining property under false pretences ...	1
Concealment of birth	1
Abduction	1

Deposit and Remittance Agency ... ... £191 17*s.* 0*d.*

Patrols.

Number of patrols	47
„ men employed	71
„ miles travelled	3,626
„ arrests for contravening pass regulations ...	17
„ „ „ liquor „ ...	—
„ „ other offences	8

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	76
„ „ convicted and sentenced ...	73
„ „ discharged unconvicted ...	3
„ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1905 ...	10
Floggings inflicted	—

Police.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is as follows :—

Sub-inspector	1
Native sergeant.	1
„ corporal...	1
„ privates...	23

Prices of Stock and Produce.

Horses	£15 to £25.
Oxen	£10 to £15.
Cows	£8 to £10.
Sheep	£1 to £1 5*s*.
Goats	12*s*. to 15*s*.
Wool	3*d*. per lb.
Mohair	6*d*. „
Wheat...	£1 10*s*. per bag.
Mealies	15*s*. „
Kaffir corn	22*s*. 6*d*. „

S. Barrett,
Assistant Commissioner.

Quthing, Basutoland,
30th June, 1905.

ANNUAL REPORT—QACHA'S NEK DISTRICT, 1904–1905.

A long-standing boundary dispute was settled between Chief Sekake and Sempe on the 1st November, 1904, by the Paramount Chief's messengers. Sempe appealed against the judgment, but it has been confirmed by the Chief Lerothodi and approved of by the Resident Commissioner.

Another boundary line was also settled on the 11th November between Chief Sekake and Mpiti. On the 9th November a meeting was held at Chief Makhoala's village, on the Tsuilike River, when representatives of the Chief Lerothodi placed Makoala and put all the other chiefs in the district immediately under him with the exception of Ledinguana and Rafoletsane.

At the same gathering Mangange was called upon to take up the chieftainship in Leteba Seperi's Ward on succession to Maoala, who, since his father's death, has been recognised as heir. Owing to his weakness it was considered advisable to have him superseded.

During the year it has been decided to open a small police station on the Mekhotlong River, about three miles from its junction with the Orange River in Chief Rafoletsane's Ward, this will be of great assistance to the inhabitants in these parts to enable them to obtain passes to visit the Orange River Colony, and also Natal when Bushmen's Pass and Sane Passes are opened. The distance down to this office is great. Suitable huts are now being erected.

Many applications for stores are constantly received; one has lately been granted and two more are now under consideration.

Owing to an abnormal amount of sickness amongst the prisoners during last summer it has been decided to build a new gaol, which I hope will be completed by December.

Crops have been, more or less, a total failure, due to the prolonged drought.

Reports on six Government-aided schools have already been sent in.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

Revenue.	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	3,478	0	0
Licences	77	0	0
Fines	15	0	0
Fees	0	15	0
Miscellaneous	37	1	0
Total ...	£3,607	16	0

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 3,438.
Amount of arrear tax was £88.

Licences.

General traders...	3
Paid Hawkers	47

Passes.

Visiting in Orange River Colony ...	41
„ Cape Colony	2,767
Kimberley mines	11
Railway construction...	54
Johannesburg mines	82
Agricultural work	1,296
Indwe coal mines	24
Miscellaneous work	5,404
Visiting in Natal	130
	9,809

Remittances from Johannesburg.

Six remittances amounting to £23 19*s.* were received from Johannesburg through the Deposit and Remittance Agency.

Police State.

Sub-Inspector	1
Native sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ privates	17

Patrols.

Number of patrols	160
„ men employed	228
„ miles patrolled...	6,483
Number of arrests—	
Contravening liquor regulations ...	5
„ pass laws	3
„ other regulations ...	3

Cases Tried.

Theft	2
Pass regulations	3
Trading regulations	6
Assault	1
Other offences	4
Civil cases	—

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	19
„ „ sentenced	9
„ „ discharged unconvicted ...	1
„ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1905 ...	11

No floggings were inflicted.

RETURN OF LOST STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	2	—	2	—	2
Cattle	6	—	6	—	6
Sheep	1,023	15	1,008	15	1,008
Goats	1	—	1	—	1

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Cattle	£5 to £12.
Horses	£5 to £20.
Sheep	10*s.* to 20*s.*
Goats	10*s.* to 20*s.*
Wheat	25*s.* per bag.
Mealies	20*s.* „
Kaffir corn	25*s.* „
Wool	6*d.* per lb.
Mohair	10*d.* „

E. D'U. BLYTH,
Assistant Commissioner.

Qacha's Nek,
30th June, 1905.

PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT, 1904-1905.

The subjoined table shows the number of attendances during the year. The figures do not indicate any marked difference from those of recent years.

The slight falling-off in the number of out-patients, and the increase of the in-patients, are due, respectively, to the healthy year on the one hand, and the increased accommodation afforded by the Maseru Hospital on the other.

Station.	In-patients.	Out-patients.		Vaccinations.
		New Cases.	Subsequent attendances.	
Maseru	376	6,030	1,482	10,095
Leribe	113	3,400	524	7,643
Mafeteng	64	4,155	1,108	6,114
Mohales Hoek	25	1,852	257	2,642
Quthing	—	1,004	203	1,659
	578	16,441	3,574	28,153

Of the 376 patients admitted into the Maseru Hospital :—

18 died.

55 were partially relieved.

30 were discharged as incurable, or refused treatment.

273 were cured.

The average daily number of beds occupied was 24·2; the maximum number of in-patients at any time was 35, the minimum 15

293 operations, necessitating the use of the theatre, were performed on these patients. Two deaths were directly due to operation, but there were no deaths under chloroform. Except in six instances, all the operations were performed without professional help, the matron acting as anæsthetist.

During several months of the year the number of beds was found to be inadequate to accommodate all who sought admission. The old hospital buildings were used for less serious cases. Many patients had to be discharged sooner than was desirable, in order to admit urgent cases. Thanks to the zealous manner

in which the nursing sisters have approached their work, the administration of the hospital has worked smoothly. The weak spot is the absence of any provision for night nursing On various occasions the sisters have taken both night and day duty, but such an arrangement is only possible for a few days at a time.

At present there is only an untrained night attendant for both sexes. This is quite insufficient when there are any serious cases, and very unsatisfactory when there are none.

When the hospital was first opened some doubt existed as to whether the Basutos would avail themselves of its advantages. The experience of the past year goes to show that, at times, double the present number of beds could be filled. It seems a pity that there should be a lack of accommodation when patients often come two or three days' journey expecting to be received as in-patients.

I consider, therefore, that the question of enlarging the institution is worthy of the consideration of the Government. Any increase in the number of beds would, of course, necessitate having a house surgeon. This would be advantageous in many ways. It would be of great assistance in dealing with the large amount of surgical work, and enable attention to be devoted to research, and the scientific side of the work, which is now, perforce, neglected.

I would again call attention to the advisability of providing some legislative control of medical and pharmaceutical practice in Basutoland.

The health of the police force has been uniformly good, and there has been practically no sickness amongst the convicts.

Sanitary affairs call for no special comment, but the inadequate water supply at Maseru, and Teyateyaneng deserves earnest consideration.

The year under review has been an exceptionally healthy one, and the country has been practically free from epidemic diseases.

EDW. C. LONG,

Principal Medical Officer.

Maseru,
30th June, 1905.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT—LERIBE DISTRICT, 1904-1905.

The following table shows the attendance at the dispensary and hospital during the year ending June 30th, 1905 :—

Attendance at hospital and dispensary ..	3,400
Subsequent attendance	524
Hospital in-patients	113
Vaccinations	7,643
Total	11,680

There has been a considerable falling-off in the attendance of dispensary patients. The decline is seven hundred, and this has been due to the exceptionally healthy year that we have had. There have been no epidemics or any adverse circumstances to affect the public health.

The in-patient department has increased this year, and at times the hospital was inconveniently crowded. The natives are getting over their reluctance to stay in hospital, and I have no doubt that with better accommodation and nursing, this part of the work would show a very considerable increase.

The health of the police and prisoners has been very good during the year. Since my last report a much needed water supply has been introduced into the camp. A report on the sanitary condition of this place has been forwarded, and the subject calls for no further comment for the present.

N. MACFARLANE,
Medical Officer.

Leribe,
30th June, 1905.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT—MAFETENG DISTRICT, 1904–1905.

The number of out-patients seen during the year was 5,263, of which number 4,155 were seen for the first time and 1,108 on subsequent occasions.

The number of vaccination certificates issued was 6,114. Admitted to the hospital as in-patients were 64 cases, three of which still remain; of the remaining 61, six died, the causes of death being diphtheria, intestinal obstruction (refusing operation), malignant disease (sarcoma), heart disease, burns, and gastro enteritis; many cases offered in-patient treatment preferred to return to their homes.

The health of the district has been good with the exception of an outbreak of diphtheria at Sefadi in July, 1904, of which I cannot speak with authority as I was not here; two cases were admitted to hospital, one of which died. In the month of April of this year, there were several cases of chicken-pox in Mojela's ward. I visited the village of Tladi, but there were then no fresh cases.

Again in the month of June there was a fresh outbreak at Letscara, about two miles from Tladi, and there were three deaths. At the time I saw some 20 cases in various stages of the disease, and came to the conclusion that it was not small-pox, as had been reported, but attributed the deaths to exposure and lack of necessary attention during the then prevalent cold weather.

The sanitary system of Mafeteng, and its excellent water supply, give entire satisfaction, no disease having come under my notice the cause of which could be attributed to lack of hygienic precautions.

In my visits to the gaol I have always found it clean and wholesome.

H. R. F. NATTLE,
Medical Officer.

Mafeteng,
30th June, 1905.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT, MOHALES HOEK DISTRICT, 1904-1905.

The following table will show the comparative attendance at the hospital and dispensary during the past and present years:—

—	1903-1904.	1904-1905.	Increase.	Decrease.
Attendances, Out-patients—				
First attendances ...	2,215	1,852	—	363
Subsequent attendances	257	136	—	121
In-patients	36	25	—	11
Vaccinations	3,849	2,642	—	1,207
Totals	6,357	4,655	—	1,702

The decrease in attendance at the dispensary, and in admission to the hospital, I account for largely to my absence on leave for three months of the year under review.

Of the 25 cases admitted to hospital, 14 were cured, one improved, and four not improved under treatment, two died, one of phthisis the other of extensive cellulitis following extravasation of urine, and four are still under treatment.

The district has, during the period under review, been wonderfully free of all epidemic diseases.

The health of the police detachment and other inhabitants of the village has been good, notwithstanding the scarcity of water which has prevailed since my last report.

A new supply is greatly needed, as, owing to the diminished rainfall of the last few years, the original supply is now insufficient.

The prisoners have enjoyed good health, although living under the same gaol conditions as detailed in my last report.

If a new gaol cannot be granted, some alterations must be made in their sleeping arrangements. The present fixed wooden platform on which they recline at night, is a perfect vermin preserve, and no kind of disinfectant can evict, or destroy them.

I wish also to draw attention to my report of last year with regard to the question of privies.

The hospital and dispensary buildings are in a bad state of repair, but I can' ot recommend that any extensive repairs or alterations be undertaken, but I suggest that at an early date a beginning be made of a new hospital and dispensary, on modern lines.

If sufficient money could not be granted in one year, a portion might be, and a commencement made on a definite scheme for new buildings.

W. R. NATTLE,

Medical Officer.

Mohales Hoek,

30th June, 1905.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT—QUTHING DISTRICT, 1904-1905.

The following table shows the number of patients who attended the dispensary, and the number of vaccinations performed during the past year :—

Out-patients	1,004
Subsequent attendances	203
Vaccinations	1,659
Total	2,866

The health of the police detachment has, on the whole, been good, as has that of the white population.

I have not seen a single case of smallpox, but a number of severe cases of chicken-pox have occurred.

A large number of people have been vaccinated in their own homes. These are not included in the foregoing table.

I cannot too strongly urge the necessity for a hospital at this station. A large number of cases, favourable for operation, have been unavoidably turned away, or sent to other stations, and this, in my opinion, detracts largely from the usefulness of the institution.

The water supply of the district is, in my opinion, inadequate to meet the demands made upon it.

A large number of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis have come under my observation, and I regret to state that a large proportion of the native community suffer from syphilis, the ravages of the disease being increased by the difficulty of persuading the patients to undergo a prolonged course of treatment.

HAROLD CORY,

Medical Officer.

Quthing,
30th June, 1905.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
450	Weihaiwei	1904
451	Hong Kong	"
452	Gambia...	"
453	Gibraltar	"
454	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
455	British Honduras	"
456	Seychelles	"
457	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
458	Straits Settlements	"
459	Southern Nigeria	"
460	Sierra Leone	"
461	British Solomon Islands	1903–1905
462	Malta	1904–1905
463	Grenada	1904
464	St. Vincent	"
465	Gold Coast	"
466	Barbados	1904–1905
467	Uganda...	"
468	Somaliland	"
469	Trinidad and Tobago...	"
470	Lagos	1904
471	Bahamas	1904–1905
472	British Central Africa Protectorate	"
473	Mauritius	1904
474	Fiji	"
475	East Africa Protectorate	1904–1905
476	Northern Nigeria	1904
477	British Guiana	1904–1905
478	Leeward Islands	"
479	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou.
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies... ...	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone...	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Island	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.
31	Northern Nigeria	Cotton, &c.

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1905.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 513.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1905-6.

(For Report for 1904–5, *see* No. 480.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1906.

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1906.

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No. 513.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1904-5, *see* No. 480.)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

High Commissioner's Office,
Johannesburg,
29th October, 1906.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland, enclosing the Annual Report on that territory for the financial year 1905–6.

I have, &c.,
SELBORNE,
High Commissioner

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, K.G., G.C.S.I.
&c., &c., &c.,
Colonial Office.

1125 Wt 23907 1/07 D & S 5 26636

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Maseru,
18th October, 1906.

My Lord,

I have the honour to forward my Annual Report, with the Annual Reports of the Government Secretary and other officers, for the year ended the 30th June, 1906.

I have, &c.,

H. C. Sloley,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency
The Right Honourable
The Earl of Selborne, P.C., G.C.M.G.,
High Commissioner,
South Africa.

ANNUAL REPORT—BASUTOLAND. FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1906.

The financial returns included in the Government Secretary's report, show that the revenue for the year exceeded that of the previous year by £1,481. The amounts received under all heads of revenue have been practically the same as during the preceding financial year, the most noteworthy exception being the Post Office receipts, which show an increase of £600. The hut-tax has been satisfactorily paid, and shows a slight increase both in the number of huts and in the total amount collected. The collection includes a smaller amount of arrear tax than before. The expenditure for the year under review has been £93,333 13*s.* 8*d.*, or less than the revenue by £5,181 12*s.* 7*d.*, which amount has been added to the balance.

The balance in favour of the Basutoland Government now amounts to £158,287 2*s.* 9*d.* Of this sum £70,000 is invested as an advance, bearing interest at three per cent., to the Central South African Railways, for the purpose of construction of the railway line to Maseru. The remainder of the balance is invested with the Standard Bank on deposit account, bearing interest. I have suggested the utilization of this balance as an advance for the purpose of further railway extension towards the border of Basutoland, but the Railway Committee of the Inter-Colonial Council has not been able to entertain the proposals in regard to this which have been made by His Excellency the High Commissioner.

The imports for the year show an increase of £41,000, and the exports an increase of £8,000. Owing to bad seasons, the grain exports from Basutoland have been inconsiderable. Wool and horses contribute the largest items to the total value of exports. I have no doubt that the number of ponies actually exported by buyers for the German Government and for other purposes exceeded considerably the number which is shown in the returns.

The purchasing powers of the Basuto are largely augmented by the wages earned by the young men on railway works, mines, &c., but a very large proportion of these earnings is spent outside the country. To such an extent do these outside purchases affect the Customs revenue of Basutoland that it has been found necessary to station a Customs officer at the new railway station in Maseru, to frame returns of dutiable articles brought in by returning labourers and others. The result of this step has been to obtain figures which suggest the conclusion that very much,

if not most, of the Basuto labourers' pay is spent outside Basutoland.

There has been an increase in the number of Trading Licences issued and, as usual, there have been numerous applications for licences to open new shops. In most cases it has not been possible to grant these new licences. The tendency on the part of Indian traders to absorb the retail trade in the north of the territory continues. European traders complain, with good show of reason, that it is impossible to compete with these Indian shopkeepers.

The Agricultural Shows, which have been held at all stations, are reported by district officers to have been well attended, and to afford grounds for hoping that, year by year, an increasing number of the people may be led to take a greater interest in the quality of their produce. Other measures for the betterment of the agricultural conditions of the country are taken as opportunities arise. A scheme for the introduction, with Government aid, of good seed wheat proved almost abortive, owing to the prolonged drought which has this winter almost entirely prevented the sowing of wheat. Two additional Arab stallions and 40 Rambouillet merino rams have been introduced into the country. In view of the possibility that the production of wool may be largely increased, I propose during the year to arrange for the further introduction of well bred sheep. Tanks have been completed for the purpose of dipping sheep and goats, and others are to be constructed as suitable localities can be decided upon.

The following High Commissioner's Proclamations and Notices were promulgated during the year :—

Notices and Proclamations.

Notice No. 104 of 1905.—Appointing Mr. Wroughton to act as Resident Commissioner and Mr. Boyes to act as Government Secretary during the absence of the Resident Commissioner on leave.

Proclamation No 18 of 1905.—Amending the tariff of allowances to be paid to witnesses residing in Basutoland whose testimony is required in the courts of neighbouring States and Colonies.

Notice No. 34 of 1905.—Notifying that the High Commissioner has approved, as regards Southern Rhodesia and the Bechuanaland Protectorate, of the reciprocal observance between Cape Colony, the Transvaal, the Orange River Colony, Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate, and Southern Rhodesia, of a tariff of allowances for witnesses in lieu of the tariff laid down in Notice No. 11 of 1898.

Proclamation No. 8 of 1906.—Amending the Customs law and Customs tariff with regard to goods imported into the territory of Basutoland.

Notice No. 62 of 1906.—Notifying the suspension of the duty imposed on fresh, chilled, or frozen meat, and on animals for slaughter, imported into Basutoland.

Notice No. 64 of 1906.—Allowing the importation into Basutoland, free of Customs duties, of wines and spirits for the use of the Resident Commissioner.

During the year an examination of the educational system, including an inspection of many typical schools, was made by Mr. E. B. Sargant, Educational Adviser to the High Commissioner. Mr. Sargant's report was forwarded with my despatch of the 30th May, 1906. One feature of Mr. Sargant's work in Basutoland (which lasted from December, 1905, to May, 1906) deserving of special notice, was the vacation course for teachers, which proved most interesting and successful. I have arranged for a repetition of this teachers' course for the coming summer vacation under the supervision of the Rev. N. Fogarty, the director of the industrial school at Maseru. A report on the year's work at the industrial school is included with the other reports herewith.

Several Basuto attended a conference held at Lovedale in January, on the subject of a proposed Inter-Colonial Native College. Some of the Basuto appear to take considerable interest in the project, which I understand is under Your Excellency's consideration.

In March, I presided at a small conference assembled to discuss the question of a uniform system of Sesuto orthography. The conference consisted of representatives of the three missions engaged in Basutoland, and a native representative of the local newspaper. The conference agreed in the adoption of a uniform method of spelling, and the system recommended has received official recognition.

The Government Hospital at Maseru, under the control of Dr. Long, continues to do good work and is, without doubt, a great boon to the people. A similar hospital, somewhat smaller, but equally well equipped, is being built in the Leribe District. Steps are being again taken to register all known lepers in the country. The registers, when complete, will be summarised by the Principal Medical Officer, and the result will be useful information as to the extent and progress of the disease. In the Northern districts, arrangements are being made, under the advice of the Medical Officer, for the segregation of a number of known lepers in an isolation camp, on ground set aside for the purpose by the local chiefs. By the consent of the Orange River Colony Government, several lunatics of dangerous and

criminal tendencies, have been received in the asylum at Bloemfontein, where they are supported at the expense of this Administration.

I am afraid there is no reason to suppose that there is any diminution in the quantity of brandy illicitly brought into Basutoland. Drunkenness on spirits is by no means general among the people, although when grain is plentiful the quantity of strong native beer brewed and consumed is deplorable. At such times a village gathering on the occasion of a wedding, or some other feast, often concludes with a drunken orgy, at which broken heads are by no means uncommon. Most cases of culpable homicide arise out of these beer-drinking parties. The vice of brandy drinking is less common, but several of the chiefs show bad examples to their people in this respect, and there are native liquor smugglers (generally working in collusion with a certain class of Europeans on the border), who introduce brandy and sell it at considerable profit to themselves. The police are only partially successful in dealing with this class of offenders. Thirty-five arrests of smugglers have been made during the year, the majority of these having been effected by police in the Mafeteng and Mohales Hoek Districts, where the existence of a border fence with few recognized gates facilitates police control.

Serious crime, as usual, has been rare, most of the cases dealt with in Assistant Commissioner's offices being breaches of the border pass laws or trading regulations. Eighty-five cases of theft have been brought before Government Courts.

The following public works have been completed during the year :—

A railway to Maseru (including bridge over the Caledon River), in connection with the Central South African Railways system.

New Government Offices at Butha Buthe.

New cottages for Government employés at Maseru.

New gaol at Mohales Hoek.

New quarters for police officer at Mohales Hoek.

New gaol and offices at Qacha's Nek.

The following public works have been commenced :—

New hospital at Leribe.

Bridge over the Caledon River at Ficksburg (this is in co-operation with the Orange River Colony Government upon the principle of each Administration paying half the cost).

Additions to the waterworks, Maseru.
New dispensary, Maseru.
New public offices, Mafeteng.

The visit to Maseru of His Excellency the High Commissioner, which took place in February, was the occasion of a great gathering of Chiefs and Basuto. It has been estimated that twenty thousand people were present on this occasion. The High Commissioner, in addition to publicly announcing the recognition of Letsie as Paramount Chief by His Majesty's Government, formally opened the railway to Maseru for purposes of public traffic, and laid the foundation stone of the principal building of the industrial school. Several important and useful interviews between the High Commissioner and missionaries, European residents and chiefs, also took place, and I believe His Excellency's visit and address to the Basuto had a most excellent effect at a time when there seemed a possibility that rebellion and political unrest in Natal and Zululand might unsettle the natives in Basutoland.

As a matter of fact the Basuto have remained perfectly quiet, and to all appearances entirely unaffected by the occurrences in Natal. Under instructions from Government, in the early stages of the rebellion, the chiefs placed parties of their men in the passes of the Drakensberg to arrest any fugitives who might have sought to escape from the Natal forces, by flight into Basutoland.

The death of the late Paramount Chief Lerothodi, which took place on August 19th, 1905, was mentioned in the report for the previous year. His successor, Letsie, has so far shown moderation and common-sense in dealing with affairs, and has acted satisfactorily in certain matters in which his co-operation with me has been necessary.

During the collection of hut-tax, the question of payment of the tax by widows and bachelors arose, as it has on more than one previous occasion. The terms of the regulations on the subject are not absolutely explicit in regard to such payments, and during this year's collection a report was current that the Government had imposed a new tax, payable by widows and bachelors. After a meeting, at which my representatives were present, Letsie sent me a letter asking me to specify the classes of widows and bachelors who are liable for taxation in the regulations. I have directed that, for the present, each case is to be decided in accordance with the existing regulations, by the officer in charge of the district, after consultation with the local chief. The question may require decision by legislative proclamation.

A meeting of the Basutoland Council took place in September, 1905, and a report of the proceedings has been forwarded. The principal business was the nomination of Letsie as Paramount Chief, in the place of his father, the late Lerothodi.

Numerous disputes exist as to land questions between different chiefs. The following have been dealt with during the year by myself and the Paramount Chief, or our representatives :—

1. Boundary between Masupha and Koadi.
2. Boundary between Masupha and Theko.
3. Boundary between Leshoboro and Sauer Masupha.
4. Boundary between Mahapela and Seiso.

In the case of the boundary made between Mahapela and Seiso, the settlement made appears to be final and satisfactory as between the original disputants, but a quarrel has since arisen between Mahapela and the sons of his late brother Ramoetsana, as to their respective rights within the boundary made for them. The affair does not, so far, appear to be of much political importance.

I would again call attention to the satisfactory performance of their duties by the Government Secretary, the Assistant Commissioners, and all other officers in the service of the Government. The senior officers have a knowledge of local affairs which enables them to exercise a valuable influence in their respective districts, and I am much indebted to the staff of all ranks for their loyal aid in the preservation of internal peace, the repression of crime, and the collection of revenue, and for their efforts to promote the advancement and prosperity of the people.

H. C. SLOLEY,

Resident Commissioner.

Maseru,
Basutoland,
30th June, 1906.

THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1905–6.

Government Secretary's Office,
Maseru,
30th June, 1906.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward you herewith the usual Annual Reports for the year ending 30th June, 1906, and also the Statistical Returns for the Territory for the same period compiled from these Reports and from other sources.

The year has been, agriculturally speaking, a bad one, and this in an agricultural country necessarily means depression in trade and general scarcity of money. There was little rain throughout the year, and what rain fell was not well distributed.

Wheat was a failure, and the mealie and mabela crops of the winter of 1905 were not up to the average.

Under these circumstances the natives are distinctly to be congratulated on having paid their hut tax so well.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year ended 30th June, 1906, was:—

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	62,808	10	0
Licences	3,576	14	3
Fees of Court	237	7	10
Post Office	3,374	8	6
Miscellaneous	1,353	18	6
Customs	21,984	18	10
Interest...	5,179	8	4
Total ...	£98,515	6	3

The expenditure for the same period amounted to £93,333 13*s.* 8*d.*

A comparative statement is appended showing the Revenue and Expenditure for the last five years:—

Year ending	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
30th June, 1902	104,284	1	4	64,809	18	1
30th June, 1903	101,399	4	2	76,271	12	11
30th June, 1904	106,794	15	8	72,393	18	4
30th June, 1905	97,034	1	6	78,837	8	2
30th June, 1906	98,515	6	3	93,333	13	8

Hut tax was paid on 61,582 huts, while arrear hut tax collected amounted to £1,811, as against £2,299 10*s.* last year.

Commercial.

Return of Imports and Exports for the five years ending the 30th June, 1906 :—

Year ending	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
30th June, 1902, Dutiable Imports ...	230,680	166,894
30th June, 1903 " " ...	191,019	258,927
30th June, 1904, Total Imports ...	298,140	127,057
30th June, 1905 " " ...	149,821	164,817
30th June, 1906 " " ...	191,701	172,496

The exports for the year, as regards money value, are about the same as last year.

Grain and produce of all sorts have naturally gone to pieces through drought and locusts.

Wool and mohair have, however, remained steady in quantity, while rise in price causes them to show an increase in value of £15,000.

There was a strong demand by the German Government for remounts during the greater part of the year, and 2,439 horses, valued at £50,042, are returned as exported.

Exports.

Articles.	Quantity.	Value.
	Lbs.	£
Wheat	911,697	3,224
Mealies	13,081,595	26,083
Kaffir corn	1,710,924	4,503
Barley	3,000	14
Oats	106,582	326
Oat-hay	—	—
Meal (wheaten)...	29,557	185
Meal (mealie)	23,209	155
Bran	22,809	66
Potatoes	—	—
Hides and skins	25,233	624
Wool	2,918,637	66,637
Mohair	436,570	14,782
	No.	
Horses	2,439	50,042
Sheep and goats	2,240	1,604
Cattle	128	1,118
Miscellaneous	—	193
" (Imported goods) ...	—	2,940
Total	—	£172,496

Imports, on the other hand, show a rise of over £40,000, the increase being almost entirely in clothing and soft goods. No information is available as to what proportion of these goods are of British manufacture, but I am given to understand that the proportion formerly estimated, namely, 87½ per cent. British to 12½ per cent. foreign, is still approximately correct.

Imports.

Articles.	Value.
	£
Agricultural implements	4,317
Apparel, slops, &c.	10,553
Boots, shoes, leatherware	9,094
Corn, grain, and meal	5,232
Cotton manufactures	26,661
Haberdashery, &c.	16,933
Hardware and rough goods	18,145
Provisions and oilman's stores	18,988
Woollen manufactures...	57,234
Other goods	24,544
Total	£191,701

Licences.

The following licences were issued during the year :—

General trader	164
Hawkers (paid)	413
„ (free)	204
Mill licences	2
Labour Agents	225

Passes.

Passes show a considerable and very gratifying increase of some 10,000 for the year under report. The passes for "visiting" only increased by 1,000, while passes for "work" show an increase of 9,000.

As in former years, the heaviest figures show under the head of "Miscellaneous Work" which accounts for practically half the total labourers who went out to work. The Basuto, many of them, decline to bind themselves to any class of labour or any particular employer before leaving home. They go out to work in large numbers but they like to go as free lances, and so to be at liberty to close with any offer of employment which may

carry with it sufficiently tempting conditions of life and wages. It must therefore be remembered that many of the 46,500 men thus described in reality went to the mines, while still more of them went to work on railway construction.

Summary of Passes.

—	Visiting.	Labour.
Orange River Colony	39,386	12,699
Cape Colony	11,205	3,016
Natal	298	—
Transvaal	—	14,012
Farm and domestic	—	18,802
Miscellaneous	—	46,480
Total	50,889	95,009

Return of Passes.

Districts.	Visiting in O. R. C.	Visiting in C. C.	Visiting in Natal.	Johannesburg Mines.	Indwe Coal Mines.	O. R. C. Mines.	Jagersfontein Mines.	Railway Construction.	Farm and Domestic.	Miscellaneous Work.	Kimberley Mines.	Johannesburg Municipality	Other Mines.	Totals.
Leribe	11,925	100	140	6,244	2	—	—	4,363	2,888	28,018	132	—	—	53,812
Berea	6,106	210	—	2,195	—	—	—	3,341	2,910	1,182	496	—	—	16,440
Maseru	9,851	536	—	3,134	12	—	—	698	927	2,985	921	781	857	20,702
Mafeteng ...	9,927	703	—	504	4	98	2,617	285	7,750	3,494	541	—	7	25,930
Mohales Hoek ...	1,208	1,237	—	141	21	282	536	—	2,890	2,371	790	—	—	9,476
Quthing	339	4,918	—	54	9	351	117	—	403	2,005	35	—	—	8,231
Qacha's Nek ...	30	3,501	158	95	39	—	—	11	1,034	6,425	14	—	—	11,307
Total ...	39,386	11,205	298	12,367	87	731	3,270	8,698	18,802	46,480	2,929	781	864	145,898

Native Deposit and Remittance.

I received through the Native Affairs Department of the Transvaal the sum of £6,408 3*s.* 10*d.*, being remittances sent by native labourers to their friends and relations here. The Remittance branch will be closed for good in a month or two, but the work will be carried on by the Transvaal Post Office Money Order Branch, and I trust that the natives will not allow what has in the past proved a great boon to them to lapse under the new *régime.*

Police and Judicial.

I attach police and gaol returns for the Territory :—

European officers	14
„ constables	5
Native officers	3
„ constables	4
„ sergeants	9
„ corporals	10
„ privates	245

Police and Patrol Return.

The police have done much hard work during the year, they are practically up to full strength, and are all armed, mounted, and equipped serviceably for the work they are called upon to perform.

Number of patrols	1,846
„ men on patrol	2,234
„ miles patrolled	47,625
Arrests under liquor laws	35
„ „ pass laws	275
Other offences	118

Gaol Return.

Prisoners received into gaol	325
„ convicted	293
„ discharged unconvicted ...	39
„ in gaol 30th June, 1906 ...	112
Floggings inflicted	3

Judicial Cases.

The following judicial cases were heard in the courts of the Assistant Commissioners :—

Culpable homicide	9
Theft	85
Pass regulations	262
Liquor regulations	22
Trading regulations	25
Resisting police	5
Assault	27
Other crimes	86
Rape	4
Civil cases	29

Lost Stock.

I attach a return of all stock reported from the neighbouring territories as lost, showing the result of search made by the police and chiefs in the territory.

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	92	33	69	32	60
Cattle	130	91	39	91	39
Sheep and goats	462	134	221	144	318

Education.

In the matter of education there appears a slight falling off of scholars, though the grant has been largely increased. The falling off however is, I think, merely a temporary one. The large figure of the grant is due to a sum being ear-marked and expended for the new Government Industrial School at Maseru. This school was opened at Christmas, and a report* on it by the Director is attached.

—	1904–1905.	1905–1906.
Expenditure	£7,833 9*s.* 3*d.*	£11,119 15*s.* 4*d.*
Schools	219	246
Scholars	13,228	12,490
Mean average attendance	9,963	9,704

* *See* page 61.

Post and Telegraph.

It has, for some time past, appeared necessary to refit and refurnish the post offices in the territory and to inquire into the adequacy and competence of the postal staff throughout the country. The thanks of this Government are due to the Postmaster-General, Cape Colony, for his courteous loan of the services of two able and experienced officers for this purpose, and also for the following statistics which he has kindly supplied.

Correspondence.

Letters posted in Basutoland	343,330
„ received in Basutoland	330,876

Money Orders.

			£	*s.*	*d.*
Issued	5,365—Value		16,220	18	11
Paid	2,543 „		9,669	17	2

Savings Bank.

			£	*s.*	*d.*
Deposits ...	203—Value		1,207	6	7
Withdrawals ...	92 „		1,982	9	10

Telegraphs.

The Revenue derived from this source was £1,101 14*s.* 6*d.*

Postal Notes.

			£	*s.*	*d.*
Issued	900—Value		350	16	6
Paid	1,678 „		815	12	10

The average rainfall during the year ending the 30th June, 1906, for seven stations was 26·34 inches, being a decrease of 1·32 inches on the previous year.

I have, &c.,

L. Wroughton,
Government Secretary.

Maseru,
30th Jane, 1906.

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS' ANNUAL REPORTS, 1905-1906.

ANNUAL REPORT—LERIBE DISTRICT, 1905-1906.

The past year has been, on the whole, a peaceful one, though the elements of discord may be said to have increased rather than diminished in district politics.

Perhaps the most dangerous of these is the anomalous position of Jonathan's sons, whose dislike of each other was mentioned in my last annual report. The matter has been specially reported upon, so it is not necessary to make more than a passing allusion to it here. It is thought that the uncertainty in which Jonathan has chosen, so far, to keep these young men by refusing to declare which is the senior, is a source of danger, but on the other hand it may just as well be argued that such a declaration might precipitate a disturbance ; this is the reason Jonathan gives for his attitude in discussing the question with me, and I think it may be added that a constitutional dislike to part with anything has a good deal to do with it. It has become very noticeable in recent years that the authority of chiefs, and indeed of all parents over their sons, is no longer what it was, owing probably to the milder conditions under which the people live, and also no doubt to the spread of education and the example of democratic institutions in the neighbouring colonies. At the present moment all the heads of the three important clans in the district are being troubled by this, Jonathan perhaps more than any, and it is therefore not surprising that a man of his autocratic temper should delay as long as possible before committing himself to a line of action which can hardly fail to weaken his own position. I do not think therefore that he is likely to do anything to end the present position until he is forced to do so by public opinion or unforeseen circumstances. Public opinion has already begun to press the point.

At Makhoakhoeng, things are very much more peaceful than they were, though here, too, the elements of discord are by no means absent. A good deal was accomplished during the year by regulating the position of Lekopa's orphans, which had been complicated by the placing out of Letsika's son, Tumane.

At Tsime things are much as they were last year. Joel and Hlasoa are still bickering, and I fear may be expected to continue doing so until Joel can bring himself to agree with Jonathan.

The ward of the Chief Seshope is in a very unsatisfactory state. He too is suffering from the revolt of the children mentioned above, and it has gone so far in his case that his son and heir, Hlayoane, is reported to have threatened to kill him and to have grossly insulted him on several occasions. The ward is a small one and not very important, but it is necessary to mention this as a possible source of disturbance and as an indication of the change which is taking place in the family life of the Basuto.

Motsueni's matters are still as they were, and it would not be necessary to mention them here except to say that during the past year he has been behaving very well considering that he is a man with a grievance which it is not probable that it will ever be possible to entirely remove, though possibly something may be done to improve his position, for which, of course, the Government are in no way responsible.

With all these sources of discord it is satisfactory to note that no serious breach of the peace has occurred. This may, I think, be fairly attributed to the good sense and self control of the chiefs, especially the more important of them, and indeed the practice, once almost unknown, of bringing their complaints to the Assistant Commissioner instead of having recourse to arms, may now be said to have become general. It is, of course, a great step in the right direction, but, as noted by the Resident Commissioner in last year's report, it leaves one little time for other and less immediately pressing duties.

A great improvement has been effected in the roads in the district. The main trunk roads may now, I think, be said to be in very fair order, and it is hoped next year, with an increased grant, to devote attention to the by-roads, and so to bring the grain producer into closer touch with the market, thus enhancing the value of produce and the purchasing power of the natives.

Trade continues to be depressed, and though the harvest is better than last year, the quality of the grain is said to be very poor. It is hoped that something may be done to facilitate the supply of better seed, especially of mealies, which is the staple product of this district.

A successful Agricultural Show was held here on the 20th June, at which some excellent exhibits were shown, including grain, which shows that it is not all bad; but of course one cannot judge a season's crop by a few prize parcels. These Shows are much appreciated, and are proving a valuable stimulus to progress in agriculture and stock rearing.

New offices have been supplied to Butha Buthe camp, which were badly needed.

I attach a report from the officer in charge at Butha Buthe, and one* from the medical officer here.

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* *See* page 55.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	14,845	0	0
General traders' licences	500	0	0
Hawkers' licences	47	0	0
Recruiting labour licences	25	0	0
Judicial fines...	454	12	6
Fees of office	2	11	0
Transfer of licences (fees)	1	0	0
Registration of marriages (fees) ...	2	17	6
Miscellaneous	188	13	6
Total	£16,066	14	6

Tax has been paid on 14,349 huts.

Arrear tax collected amounts to £630 10*s.*

LICENCES.

The number of licences issued during the year are :—

General traders'	50
Paid hawkers'	47
Free hawkers'	14
Labour agents'	49

PASSES.

Passes were issued for the following purposes :—

Visiting in the Orange River Colony	11,925
„ „ Cape Colony	100
Working in the Kimberley mines ...	132
„ „ Johannesburg mines...	6,244
„ on Railway construction ...	4,363
Agricultural labour	2,888
Working in the Indwe mines... ...	2
Visiting Natal and Zululand	140
Miscellaneous	28,618
Total...	53,812

DEPOSIT AND REMITTANCE.

Natives working in the Transvaal have sent home to their friends, through the Remittance Agency, 423 remittances amounting to £3,137 16*s.* 4*d.* altogether.

Police.

The police force in the district consists of :—

Inspector	1
Sub-inspectors	2
Sergeants	2
Corporals	3
Lance-corporals	1
1st class privates	20
2nd class privates	36
Native officer	1
European constable	1
Total	67

Gaols.

During the year 59 persons were received into gaol, of these 54 were convicted and sentenced. There were four unconvicted. The number in gaol on the 30th June, 1906, was 33. One prisoner awaits trial.

Patrols.

The following is a return of patrols :—

Number of patrols	221
„ men engaged	278
Estimated distance covered	7,245 miles.
Number of arrests	133
For contravening liquor regulations ...	1
„ „ pass regulations ...	78
For other offences	54

Cases Tried.

The following is a list of cases tried in the court :—

Culpable homicide	3
Assault	11
Theft	26
Housebreaking	1
Fraud	1
Breach of the peace	16
Resisting the police	1
Contravening Pass regulations	78
„ trading regulations	2
Contempt of court	3
Wilful damage to property	1
Murder	1
Total	144

There were three civil actions.

Lost Stock.

The following table shows the result of action taken in the matter of tracing and recovering lost stock.

Description	Traced to Basutoland.	Not traced to Basutoland.	Total Reported.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses ...	7	11	18	6	12
Cattle ...	2	2	4	2	2
Sheep ...	—	7	7	—	7
Goats ...	12	20	32	12	20
Total ...	21	40	61	20	41

Prices of Stock and Produce.

The following are the average prices paid for stock and produce:—

Wheat (per muid)...	15*s.*
Mealies, „	8*s.* to 10*s.*
Kaffir corn „	8*s.* to 10*s.*
Forage, per 100 bundles	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Ponies	£15 to £20.
Cattle	£8 to £12.
Sheep and goats	15*s.* to 25*s.*
Wool, per lb.	2*d.* to 4*d.*
Mohair, per lb.	6*d.* to 8*d.*

J. C. Macgregor,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—BUTHA BUTHE 1905-1906.

The general state of the ward during the year has been peaceful.

The ill-feeling between Joel and Hlasoa still exists, and I am afraid will continue to do so until something definite is done to separate them.

There were two small disturbances in Letsika's ward, otherwise the Makhoakhoa have been unusually quiet.

In November, Thakabanna, Letsika's eldest son, accompanied by a number of men, proceeded to Diqobong and pulled down the huts of his brother Moorosi as a protest against Moorosi having been placed there without his being consulted.

Thakabanna was tried at Leribe and sentenced to pay a fine of £20, and the men who accompanied him to pay a fine of £1 each.

In April, Ramohapi supported by Dijo attacked his brother Mahase; guns were used but very little damage was done, the only person who was injured being Mahase, who had the top of one of his fingers shot off; the case was tried at Leribe, and Dijo and Ramohapi were each sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment and the men who accompanied them to pay a fine of £1 each.

In October the Assistant Commissioner of Leribe, together with the Chief Jonathan, proceeded to Butha Buthe to settle a land dispute between Tumane and Lebusetsa; a pitso was called, and after going carefully into the matter, it was decided to make a line between the contending parties; this has been done, and up to date has proved satisfactory.

I regret that the hut tax is short on last year by £155.

There was very little wheat reaped owing to the drought; mealies and Kaffir corn are plentiful and would have been more so if it had not been for an early frost in March which destroyed many of the late crops.

There has been very little serious crime in the district, particularly stock thefts.

The police have done their work well.

New Government Offices have been built.

The roads are in good order.

L. GRIFFITH,

Inspector, B.M.P.

Butha Buthe,

30th June, 1906.

ANNUAL REPORT—BEREA DISTRICT, 1905-1906.

There has been very little serious crime in the district during the past year. Nearly all the important questions that arose were connected with boundary lines between various chiefs.

In July, 1905, disputes began afresh between Masupha and Koali about lands and reeds, and as to what villages were under Moeketse. The settlement of these questions was delayed owing to the death of the Paramount Chief Lerothodi. No serious trouble arose, however, and at the end of September the Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief Letsie came up and finally determined Koali's rights, which included those of Moeketse.

There was also a dispute as to some lands at Ntlama's about the same time, which I hope has since been settled ; but it may crop up again.

The most serious trouble in the district occurred in December, when a fight took place between Nkutu, Peete's son, and Jobo, in which one man was wounded. The ringleaders were arrested and punished.

There had for some time been differences between Masupha and Theko, as to their boundary line, and at one time the position looked serious. However both sides behaved with moderation, and in January Chief Mojela was sent up with Nto to point out the correct line. Against the line then shown Masupha appealed, and in March the Resident Commissioner and Paramount Chief met at Khamolane and settled on a line. Masupha at first complained very much about this line, as beaconed by Mojela, but he finally accepted.

All through the year there have also been complaints from both Leshoboro and Sauer as to their boundary. But a few days ago Mojela was sent up with Abea, and this has, I hope, been finally settled.

In November one of the police horses died from glanders, but there has not been another case since.

On June 6th an Agricultural Show was held here, and considering that Masupha and other chiefs were unable to attend, it was very successful.

I submit the usual returns :—

Revenue.

	£	s	d.
Hut tax	6,693	0	0
Licences	266	0	0
Fines	31	17	0
Fees of court	3	18	0
Miscellaneous...	26	12	0
Total ...	£7,021	7	0

Tax was paid on 6,470 huts. Arrears of tax £352, or 5·25 per cent. The amount of hut tax was £50 short of last year, but the smaller percentage of arrears would account for a good deal of this.

Licences.

The following licences were issued :—

General traders'	24
Hawkers' (paid)	8
Labour agents'	8
Mill licences	1
Hawkers' (free)	10

Passes.

The following are the numbers who took passes during the year :—

Visiting Orange River Colony	6,106
„ Cape Colony	210
Kimberley mines	496
Railway construction	3,341
Johannesburg mines	2,195
Agriculture...	2,910
Miscellaneous work	1,182
	16,440

Native Remittances.

Remittances from natives in Johannesburg to their friends and relatives in Basutoland, £733 16*s*.

POLICE.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-inspector	1
European constable	1
Native sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ lance-corporal	1
„ privates	25
	30

Patrols.

The following patrols were sent out during the year :—

Number of patrols	310
„ men employed	603
„ miles covered	4,915
„ arrests under liquor laws ...	1
„ „ „ pass laws ...	110
Other offences	1

Cases tried.

The following cases were tried during the year in the Court of the Assistant Commissioner :—

Contravening Pass laws	83
„ liquor laws	1
Assault	8
Theft	4
Riot	10
Other cases	13
Civil cases	1

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol ...	20
„ „ sentenced	17
„ „ discharged	18
Handed over to Orange River Colony ...	1
In gaol on the 30th June, 1906	7

Lost Stock.

The following is the return of lost and stolen stock reported to this office :—

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered	Not recovered.
Horses	1	1	—	1	—
Cattle	18	18	—	18	—
Sheep and goats	—	—	—	—	—

Prices of Stock and Produce.

The average prices of stock and produce here are about as follows :—

Oxen	£10 to £12
Cows	£8 to £10
Horses	£15
Sheep	20*s.* to 25*s.*
Goats	10*s.* to 15*s.*
Wheat (per bag)	15*s.*
Mealies „	8*s.*
Kaffir corn „	7*s.*
Fine wool (per lb.)...	5*d.*
Coarse „ „	3*d*,
Mohair „	7*d.*

W. Boxwell,

Assistant Commissioner.

Berea,

Basutoland,

30th June, 1906.

ANNUAL REPORT—MASERU DISTRICT, 1905-1906.

I am glad to have to report that no serious disturbance of the peace has occurred in the district during the past twelve months.

During the months of July and August last, the Paramount Chief Lerothodi was very ill, and on the 19th of the latter month passed quietly away at his village, New Matsieng, and was accorded a national funeral on the top of Thaba Bosigo mountain, His Honour the Resident Commissioner, all available Government officers, missionaries, traders, chiefs, and people being present. The death of the chief cast a great gloom over the country. Letsie, the eldest son of Lerothodi, was nominated at the meeting of the National Council in September to succeed to the Paramountcy, and was subsequently confirmed as Paramount Chief.

In February a dispute arose between the Chief Masupha, of the Berea District, and Chief Theko, as to the boundary line between them. The dispute assuming rather alarming proportions, and to avoid an appeal to arms over it, I was instructed by His Honour the Resident Commissioner to meet the Assistant Commissioner, Berea, and to accompany representatives of the Paramount Chief, who had already been instructed by the Resident Commissioner and Paramount Chief as to the line.

The Chief Masupha at first wished to dispute the beacons which had been erected, but finding that the Assistant Commissioner, Berea, and myself verified them as being correct, and that the decision of the Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief was indisputable, he finally agreed to them. As the majority of the beacons are on well-known landmarks, there should be no more trouble over this boundary line.

The railway was completed and thrown open for traffic into Maseru on the 18th December, and has proved a great boon to the country. The bridge over the Caledon River is for road as well as rail traffic, so there is no longer the danger of the swollen river to cross when entering or leaving the territory.

The hospital at Maseru continues to be much appreciated by the natives, and applications for admission are so numerous that the Principal Medical Officer intends approaching the Government with a view to making considerable additions. The general health of the district has been good.

The water supply for the village remains inadequate except for purely domestic purposes.

A great number of young trees have been planted out during the year, and, being protected, are doing excellently. A number have also been issued free of charge to natives on a guarantee being given that they will be looked after.

Religious instruction and educational work are being carried on with satisfactory results by missionaries of the Paris Evangelical Mission Society, the English and Roman Catholic Churches. The English Church for natives, referred to in my last annual report, has been completed, and will shortly be dedicated by the Bishop of Bloemfontein. This church has been built with funds raised by Deaconess Burton, and will stand out as a lasting memorial of her good work.

There has been little disease among stock during the year. An outbreak of anthrax amongst cattle on the Reserve was dealt with by the veterinary officer with satisfactory results. All stock is in good condition. The price of horses is still abnormally high, owing to remounts being bought up for the German Government for service in German South-West Africa. There are two Government Arab stallions at this Station.

A sheep dip has been started in the district and the natives bring in their sheep in large numbers to be dipped.

I have had numerous applications for the erection of further dipping tanks in the district and hope during the ensuing year to be able to establish one or more. The Government imported 40 Rambouillet rams during the year, and has issued them out amongst deserving natives.

During the past two months locusts have visited the district in large swarms and have completely destroyed the wheat and oat crops. I am afraid that in the early spring the eggs which they have been depositing all over the district will be hatching out, and the outlook for the crops in the coming year will be a dismal one unless some means can be devised for destroying them while still in the hopping stage.

An Agricultural Show was held in Maseru on the 25th of May but I regret to say was not as well patronised as usual—the reason given by several natives being that amongst them were a certain few progressive ones who kept good stock, and it was of no use their competing against them as they always took the prizes.

During the first portion of the year under review, trade was very depressed, the wheat crop again being a failure.

A greater quantity than usual of wool and mohair have been bought, and owing to the price of these articles being high, a good deal of money was put into circulation. The mealie and Kaffir corn crops have been heavy, and though the crop is not yet quite reaped, traders are purchasing large quantities.

The roads in the district are in good order. It has not been possible this year to build the bridge over the Little Caledon River, but I trust the need for it will not be overlooked.

In my last report I referred to the commencement of the Government Industrial School, some of the most necessary buildings of which were them in course of construction. This school has now been opened for the reception of about 30 pupils, some of whom are being taught trades such as carpentry, stone cutting, blacksmith's work, shoeing of horses, &c., while others are learning the management and working of an oil engine and are obtaining a smattering of fitter's work in the workshop and in general supervision of the pipes and reservoir which supply the village with water.

A laundry under the auspices of the English Church Mission has been started in Maseru in a small way, and if it could only cater for the needs of the whole village, it would fill a long-felt want. It cannot do so at present owing to lack of funds, but the work done by it at present is much appreciated by the few whom it is able to work for.

On the 24th February, His Excellency the High Commissioner, Lord Selborne, arrived in Maseru on an official visit to the Territory; he was met on arrival by His Honour the Resident Commissioner and Staff, representative Missionaries, traders, the Paramount Chief, Chiefs and people of the territory. The sight was rather an imposing one, as the Paramount Chief, Chiefs, and people to the estimated number of twenty thousand, lined the railway line and road about one and a half miles long to the village, and as His Excellency rode up the road, joined in behind him and sang the national war song. His Excellency was accompanied by Lady Selborne, Lady Mabel Palmer, the Hon. Robert Palmer and Staff, and stayed in Maseru until the 27th.

I attach the usual annual returns.

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	11,234	0	0
Licences	436	0	0
Fines	130	0	0
Ferry tolls	7	16	6
Fees of court or office... ...	5	18	0
Miscellaneous receipts... ...	3	16	6
Total	£11,817	11	0

Tax was paid on 10,988 huts, and arrear tax amounting to £374 was collected.

Licences.

The number of licences issued is as under :—

General traders'	29
Hawkers' (paid)	92
„ (free)	7
Labour agents'	108

Passes.

The following is a return of passes issued :—

Visiting in the O.R.C.	9,851
Working in coal and diamond mines ...	857
Visiting in the Cape Colony	536
Indwe coal mines	12
Kimberley diamond mines	921
Johnannesburg (Municipality)	781
Transvaal gold and diamond mines ...	3,134
Agricultural works	927
Railway construction	698
Miscellaneous work	2,985
Total	20,702

Remittances from Johannesburg.

Remittances from natives in Johannesburg to their friends and relatives in Basutoland, through the Native Affairs Department Remittance Agency, to the amount of £1,427 11*s.* 6*d.* have been received and paid out.

Police.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-inspectors	2
European constables	2
Native „	2
„ sergeants	2
„ corporals	2
„ lance-corporal	1
„ privates	56

Patrols.

Number of patrols	394
„ men employed	406
Estimated distance travelled (miles) ...	5,073

And the following arrests have been made :—

Contravening liquor laws	1
„ pass „	5
Other offences	0

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	55
„ „ discharged unconvicted ...	6
„ „ convicted and sentenced ...	49
„ „ in gaol 30th June, 1906 ...	24
Floggings inflicted	1

Cases Tried.

The following cases have been tried during the year :—

Assault	2
Breach of the peace	1
Contravening liquor regulations	6
„ pass „	1
„ trading „	1
Culpable homicide	1
Fraud	1
Offences under gaol discipline	1
Police Offences Act	4
Theft	9
Forgery	1
Civil cases	4

LOST STOCK.

Description.	Reported Lost.	Traced into Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	39	18	21	18	21
Cattle	3	3	—	3	—
Sheep	30	—	30	—	30

Prices of Stock and Produce.

The following are current prices for stock and produce :—

Cattle	...	...	...	...	£8 to £12 each.
Horses	...	...	...	...	£20 to £30 „
Sheep	...	...	...	...	15*s.* to 25*s.* „
Goats	...	...	...	...	10*s.* to 20*s.* „
Wheat	...	...	...	...	16*s.* per bag.
Mealies	...	...	...	...	9*s.* to 10*s.* per bag.
Kaffir corn		...	...	...	9*s.* to 10*s.* „
Wool	...	...	...	...	3*d.* to 6*d.* per lb.
Mohair	...	...	...	...	6*d.* to 9*d.* „

Chas. E. Boyes,

Assistant Commissioner.

June 30th, 1906.

ANNUAL REPORT—MAFETENG DISTRICT, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1906.

My predecessor, Mr. T. P. Kennan, left Mafeteng in June, 1905, and I took over the charge of the district in July.

The regretted death of the late Paramount Chief Lerothodi took place in August, 1905, necessitating the removal of his son Letsie from Mafeteng district to Matsieng. He left his chief wife Mahadi in charge of his followers here, with Councillors Lepolesa and Kholokholo as deputies. This arrangement has hitherto worked only moderately well, and there are indications that a stronger central control is desirable. Among other indications I may point to the fact that needless delay has taken place in the collection of hut tax, which instead of being promptly paid as usual, during the first few months of collection, has only barely been completed during the present month.

Another indication of unsatisfactory control is shown by the fact of liquor smuggling being apparently rather on the increase than otherwise, notwithstanding the number of convictions obtained for this offence during the past twelve months. With reference to the increasing traffic in intoxicating liquors, there is reason to believe that the existing penalties, as laid down in the Basutoland Regulations, are not sufficiently deterrent, and that the law might be amended with advantage. The native liquor-runners are often in the employ of persons living in the adjacent territories, who make large profits by the sale of drink, and are thus well able to pay the fines inflicted on the comparatively rare occasions of their runners being caught, and so the runner is speedily released, and the traffic goes on unchecked.

A land dispute between Chiefs Seiso and Mahapela was settled in April last by the Resident Commissioner, who, with the Paramount Chief, visited the place in question, and gave a decision on the spot, involving removal of certain villages of the followers of both disputants, which were hopelessly intermixed. Complaints have since been received of action on the part of the chiefs calculated to prevent Mahapela from deriving any benefit from this judgment.

There is also a chronic dispute between Mojela and Azariel, in respect of ground near Tsitas Nek which appears to require that steps be taken for its adjustment.

On the 28th February His Excellency the High Commissioner visited Mafeteng. He was met at the border by the representatives of the Paramount Chief, together with Chiefs Seiso,

Mojela and others, and a large number of mounted men. His Excellency was escorted by them to Mafeteng and returned the same afternoon to Wepener, Orange River Colony.

Arrangements had been made by the Government during the year for the supply of a considerable quantity of seed wheat to the Basuto at a low price. Unfortunately the ploughing season has again proved too dry for the people to take advantage of this arrangement. Four consecutive years of drought is a severe strain on the agricultural resources of a small territory, and until regular rains return, it is improbable that any large quantity of wheat will be grown in Basutoland. There has, however, been a fair crop of maize and Kaffir corn in the district.

The year has been healthy for all kinds of livestock, and good prices have prevailed for wool and mohair.

Horses have been purchased largely for the German Government, and the supply shows little sign of depletion.

Considerable attention appears to be paid to horse-breeding by many of the people of this district, and results appear to be satisfactory, judging from the superior class of ponies exhibited at the recent Agricultural Show. Some good half-bred Arab foals were shown, the progeny of the Government stud horse, "Aladdin," a bay Gulf Arab, imported from India. This horse has lately been removed to Maseru, and has been replaced by "Nuhajjar," a recent importation from the Crabbet Park stud.

The exhibits of foals by the Arab stud horses have become noticeable features at the annual Shows, and many of them show the Arab type distinctly. It would be well if a system were introduced by the Government of branding these foals with some distinguishing mark as a certificate of breeding. This would undoubtedly enhance their market value, and would be useful in tracing subsequent results of breeding from the fillies of this cross.

Owing to continuous drought, most of the vleis or lakes round Mafeteng are drying up, some being now absolutely dry. It has been suggested that the present is a favourable time for deepening the beds of some of these vleis, in order to provide for greater storage of water when the ordinary wet seasons return, as presumably they may do, in time. It is becoming a matter of increasing difficulty to find water for the large numbers of cattle owned in this district.

A dipping tank for sheep has lately been started at Mr. F. A. Collier's trading station, and about 3,000 sheep have been dipped there during the past six weeks.

The dipping tank at Mafeteng is still extensively used, 8,700 sheep having passed through it during the year.

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	9,860	0	0
Licences	354	0	0
Fines...	300	4	6
Fees of court	9	13	6
Miscellaneous	331	19	3
	£10,855	17	3

Number of huts upon which tax was paid, 9,794. Amount of arrear tax paid was £169.

LICENCES.

General traders' licences	25
Hawkers' (paid)	65
„ (free)	22
Labour licences	38

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Wheat, per bag	16*s.*
Mealies „	8*s.*
Kaffir corn „	9*s.*
Barley „	8*s.*
Oats „	9*s.*
Oat hay, per 100 bundles	15*s.* to 25*s.*
Slaughter oxen	£9 to £13.
Cows...	£5 to £10.
Basuto ponies	£18 to £25.
Sheep (breeding)	15*s.* to 20*s.*
„ (slaughter)	18*s.* to 25*s.*
Goats	12*s.* to 15*s.*
Wool, per lb.	6*d.*
Mohair „	9*d.*
Hides „	6*d.*
Sheepskins, per lb.	6*d.*

Passes Issued.

Visiting Orange River Colony	9,027
„ Cape Colony	703
Domestic service, Orange River Colony	7,235
„ „ Cape Colony	405
Kimberley mines	541
Jagersfontein „	2,617
Koffyfontein „	98
Johannesburg „	504
Railway construction	285
Agricultural labour	110
Indwe coal mines	4
Viljoen's Drift coal mine	7
Miscellaneous work	3,494
Total	25,930

The Deposit and Remittance Agency at Johannesburg fowarded £731 3*s.* 6*d.* for distribution.

Police.

Inspector	1
Native officer	1
„ constables	2
„ sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ privates	36

Patrols.

Number of patrols	518
„ men employed	334
„ miles patrolled	7,562
„ arrests for miscellaneous offences	25
„ arrests for contravening liquor regulations	14
„ arrests for contravening pass regulations	12

Cases tried in Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Civil actions	10
Theft	10
Contravening liquor regulations	11
„ Pass „	4
Gun running	1
Assault and resisting police	4
Wilfully damaging Government property	2
Concealment of birth	1
Culpable homicide	2
Contravening Reserve regulations... ...	2
Forgery	1

RETURN OF LOST AND STOLEN STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Recovered in Orange River Colony.	Not recovered.
Horses ...	13	5	8	3	2	8
Cattle ...	81	61	20	7	54	20
Sheep ...	132	122	10	113	9	10

GAOL RETURN.

Number of prisoners received in gaol	51
„ „ discharged unconvicted ...	4
„ „ convicted and sentenced ...	47
„ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1906	11

One flogging was inflicted during the year on a prisoner in gaol convicted of assault with intent.

S. BARRETT,

Assistant Commissioner.

Cases Tried.

Theft	9
Pass regulations	7
Trading regulations	5
Assault	1
Other offences	3
Civil cases	2

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	26
" " sentenced	21
" " discharged unconvicted ...	1
" " in gaol on 30th June, 1906 ...	8
Floggings inflicted	Nil

Return of Lost Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not recovered.
Horses	7	—	7	—	7
Cattle	9	—	9	—	9
Sheep	—	—	—	—	—
Goats	—	—	—	—	—

Prices of Stock and Produce.

Cattle	£5 to £15.
Horses	£5 to £30.
Sheep	10s. to 20s.
Goats	10s. to 20s.
Wheat	15s. to 20s. per bag.
Mealies	6s. to 10s. "
Kaffir corn	10s. to 15s. "
Wool	6d. to 7d. per lb.
Mohair	8d. to 10d. "

E. D'U. Bluth,

Assistant Commissioner.

LICENCES.

General traders'	4
Paid hawkers'	133
Labour agents'	1

PASSES.

Visiting in the Orange River Colony	30
" " Cape Colony ...	3,501
" Natal	158
Kimberley mines	14
Railway construction...	11
Johannesburg mines	95
Agricultural work	1,034
Indwe coal mines	39
Miscellaneous work	6,425
	11,307

REMITTANCES.

Four remittances amounting to £27 15s. were received from Johannesburg through the Deposit and Remittance Agency.

POLICE STATE.

Sub-Inspectors	2
Native sergeant	1
" corporal	1
" privates	18
Total	22

Patrols.

Number of patrols	137
" men employed...	186
" miles patrolled...	6,470
Number of arrests—	
Contravening Pass regulations ...	6
" other regulations ...	4

ANNUAL REPORT—QACHA'S NEK DISTRICT, 1905–6.

The peace of the district has not been disturbed during the past year.

There has been a good deal of friction between Ntaote, who was placed in Hlakanelo's ward by the late Paramount Chief Lerotholi in the year 1897, and Chief Makhaola; this is entirely due to Ntaote ignoring Makhaola, and taking all matters to Chief Sekhonyane, Berend's son, residing in Maseru district.

When the native rebellion broke out in Natal, it was considered advisable to call on the chiefs to station men at the passes; my instructions were promptly obeyed. The Basuto here show no sympathy with the Natal rebels or excitement at the rebellion. The death of the late Paramount Chief Lerotholi in August came as a great surprise to the inhabitants; trouble was feared in some quarters as to his successor, but everything passed off satisfactorily.

Great disappointment was expressed by every one when the news arrived of His Excellency the High Commissioner's visit through the mountains to this station being postponed indefinitely.

The new goal alluded to in my last report was completed in January. Government Offices, which were much needed, have been constructed and will shortly be taken over from the contractor.

The small house built here for the Sub-Inspector in 1893, and which is now "The Residency," is in a very dilapidated and unsafe condition.

Crops have been fairly plentiful this season, which is a great improvement on the last seven years.

Reports on six Government-aided schools have already been sent in.

The following are the usual annual returns:—

REVENUE.	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	3,647	0	0
Licences	178	10	0
Fines	48	15	0
Fees	0	5	0
Miscellaneous	7	7	0
Total ...	£3,881	17	0

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 3,591.
Amount of arrear tax paid was £93.

One flogging was inflicted—ten lashes for rape. This was a very bad case of rape on a child. The prisoner was also sentenced to a term of imprisonment and fine.

Lost Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	6	1	5	1	5
Cattle	8	—	8	—	8
Sheep	177	7	170	10	167

Prices of Stock and Produce.

Horses	...	...	...	£8 to £25.
Oxen ...	...	...	...	£8 to £12.
Cows ...	...	...	...	£6 to £10.
Sheep ...	...	...	...	10s. to 20s.
Goats ...	...	...	...	10s. to 20s.
Wool ...	...	...	...	3d. to 6d. per lb.
Mohair	...	...	...	8d. to 9d. "
Wheat...	...	...	...	£1 per bag.
Mealies	...	...	...	8s. "
Kafir corn	...	...	...	10s. "

W. D. P. Mansel,
Assistant Commissioner.

Qutshing, Basutoland,
30th June, 1906.

Police.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-inspector	...	...	...	...	...	1
Native sergeant...	...	...	...	...	...	1
" corporal...	...	...	...	...	...	1
" privates...	...	...	...	...	...	23

Patrols.

The following patrols were sent out during the year :-

Number of patrols	...	...	...	...	114
" men employed	...	...	...	...	171
" miles travelled	...	...	...	...	7,280
" arrests under Pass laws	...	...			41
" " " liquor laws	...	...			6
Other offences	...	...	...	...	...	21

Cases Tried.

The following cases were tried in the Court of the Assistant Commissioner :—

Civil actions	...	...	...	...	...	2
Culpable homicide	...	...	...	...	...	2
Concealment of birth	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rape	...	...	...	...	...	4
Theft	...	...	...	...	...	14
Escape from custody	...	...	...	...	...	1
Resisting police	...	...	...	...	...	3
Contempt of Court	...	...	...	...	...	1
Contravening trading regulations	...	...	...			6
Liquor smuggling	...	...	...	...	...	4
Gun "	...	...	...	...	...	4
Assault with intent	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fraud	...	...	...	...	...	6
Masters and Servants' Act	...	...	...	...	...	2
Wilful damage to Government property	...	...	...	...	...	7
Contravening Pass regulations	...	...	...	...	...	72

Gaol Returns.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	...	...	...	49
" " convicted and sentenced	...	...	...	41
" " discharged unconvicted	...	...	...	2
" " turned King's evidence	...	...	...	3
" " transferred to other gaols	...	...	...	2
" " in gaol on 30th June, 1906	...	...	...	21

Considering that Maseru is about 120 miles from here, it is not surprising that few, if any, natives follow this advice.

The following statistics are appended :—

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	6,338	10	0
Licences	186	10	0
Fines	145	2	6
Ferry tolls	111	8	3
Fees of court	3	6	0
Miscellaneous	102	2	6
Total	£6,886	19	3

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 6,286.

Amount of arrear tax paid, £85 10s.

LICENCES.

General traders' licences	14
Hawkers' licences (paid)	46
" " (free)	64
Labour agent's licence	1

NATIVE REMITTANCES.

Remittances from natives in Johannesburg to their friends and relatives in Basutoland, £193 12s. 6d.

PASSES.

The following are the numbers who took passes during the year :—

Visiting Cape Colony	4,918
" Orange River Colony	339
Agriculture	403
Miscellaneous	469
Working in Cape Colony	1,536
" Orange River Colony	351
" Johannesburg	64
" Kimberley	35
" Jagersfontein	117
" Ladwe	9
Total	8,231

there is now considerable confusion and uncertainty. I made a special report of this matter to the Resident Commissioner, and I understand that the present Paramount Chief is coming here shortly to inquire into it. These settlements were made here by the late Paramount Chief in person, and if—which I think would be unfortunate—they are to be reversed, they should be reversed by the present Paramount Chief, also in person, and in the presence of all parties concerned. Until this is done, or until the original settlements are confirmed, the present confusion will certainly continue and even increase.

There have been few cases of serious crime in the district. For a few months there was an epidemic of horse stealing. This was caused by the demand for horses in German South-West Africa. Numbers of speculators came into the district and the thieves consequently found a ready way of disposing of the stolen horses. The police, however, made some important arrests and the traffic was checked.

In spite of four consecutive bad grain seasons, the natives continue to pay their hut tax cheerfully. The total collection exceeds that of the previous year by £40. There are only about 30 native householders in the district who did not pay, they being unable to do so owing to poverty. As the population exceeds 30,000 persons I think this may be considered satisfactory.

The main roads in the district are now in good order. There are several well-equipped gangs working on them.

It is contemplated erecting several sheep dips in the district. The first one is now in process of construction.

An excellent Agricultural Show was held here lately, the different exhibits showing a marked improvement on those of previous years. There is no doubt that these Shows are a great encouragement and inducement to the natives to improve their stock and grain.

Natives in the district largely avail themselves of the services of the valuable Government stud horse standing at this station. Its services are granted free of charge.

I regret to say that this district is greatly overgrown with burr-weed, particularly xanthium spinosium. There are numerous sheep and goats in the district, and the amount of burrs this weed causes to the wool and mohair is very considerable. At my suggestion, Chief Simpe has undertaken to call out all the able-bodied men in the district on certain days in the coming spring, with a view of fighting against this pest. If this is done thoroughly and systematically a great step will have been made towards the extermination of the weed.

The absence of a hospital in this district is very keenly felt. When adequate hospital treatment is required all that can be said to the patient is that he or she should proceed to Maseru.

ANNUAL REPORT—QUTHING DISTRICT, 1905-6.

I took charge of this district on the 1st October, 1905. I found the political situation here somewhat different to that of other districts in which I have been stationed in Basutoland. This is due to the fact that shortly after the Gun War of 1880 numbers of natives who had fought on the Government side were located in this district. They came from all parts of Basutoland. Under the circumstances they were, for obvious reasons, comparatively independent of the control generally exercised by the Paramount Chief of the Territory, and their cases, which under ordinary conditions would have been settled in the native courts, were generally dealt with by the Assistant Commissioner of the district.

Some years afterwards when the natural feeling caused by the war had subsided, the late Chief Nqueli Letsie was sent here to represent the then Paramount Chief. This was much resented by the majority of the natives already in the district.

Nqueli was succeeded by his son Simpe, who is now the native chief of the district.

Owing to the great increase in the population, it has been found necessary from time to time, as in other parts of Basutoland, to find gardens and places of habitation for the rising generation. This invariably causes some friction, but in this district the original settlers raise the cry that they are being crowded out because they were loyal to the Government during the Gun War. Personally I do not believe that now, when all are loyal, there is any real feeling against these persons because they elected to fight on the side of the Government some twenty-six years ago. On the other hand, I think that this cry is often used as a weapon to resist the legitimate rule by chieftainship which is exercised with justice and success in other districts in Basutoland.

Generally speaking, I think the proper policy to adopt is, while carefully seeing that there is no oppression and that lawful rights are not being infringed upon, not to interfere in purely native cases unless they have first been through the native courts, that is to say, in the first instance through the court of the local Chief Simpe, and then through the court of the Paramount Chief.

In the year 1904 the late Paramount Chief Lerotholi personally settled a number of important disputes here. Under the circumstances these settlements were in the interests of justice quite satisfactory. Many of them, however, were not liked by Chief Simpe, and just before Lerotholi's death and when he was very infirm, Simpe by means of messages and personal representations induced, or is said to have induced, him to reverse them. The result is that

Civil and Criminal Cases.

Number of cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Theft	13
Resisting police	1
Contempt of court	2
Cruelty to dumb animals	1
Pass regulations	17
Trading regulations	7
Civil cases	7

No floggings were inflicted.

Gaol Returns.

Number of prisoners received into gaol ...		...	65
" " "	sentenced	...	64
" " "	discharged unconvicted ...		1
" " "	in gaol on 30th June, 1906		8

Lost Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	8	1	7	1	7
Cattle	7	7	—	7	—
Sheep and goats	84	—	84	—	84

Prices of Stock and Produce.

Horses	£15 to £25
Cattle	£8 to £14
Sheep	10s. to 30s.
Mealies (per bag)	8s. to 16s.
Kaffir corn "	30s.
Wheat "	25s.

There has been no outbreak of infectious disease in the district during the twelve months under report.

J. W. Bowker,
Assistant Commissioner.

Mohales Hoek,
30th June, 1906.

Passes.

Johannesburg mines	141
Kimberley "	790
Jagersfontein "	535
Indwe "	21
Orange River Colony mines	282
Visiting Cape Colony	1,237
" Orange River Colony ...	1,208
Agriculture	2,800
Miscellaneous	2,371
Total	9,476

Deposit and Remittance.

Remittances received from Johannesburg, £237 9s.

Police.

Sub-inspector	1
European constable	1
Native officer	1
" sergeant	1
" corporal	1
" lance-corporals	2
" privates	21
Special police	5
Total	33

Patrols.

Number of patrols	152
" men employed	256
" miles patrolled	9,080
" arrests for contravening pass laws.	23
" arrests for contravening liquor regulations.	12
" arrests for miscellaneous offences.	13

The death of the Paramount Chief Lerotholi in August last was felt as a great shock to the chiefs and the natives of this district, and with his decease an influential and important factor passes away in the every day life of his subjects.

In October the Government Arab stallion "Munir" died suddenly. This is much to be regretted as he was one of the best in the country, and the exhibition of his foals at the Agricultural Show went far to show his worth, being the best I have hitherto seen. He has been replaced by an excellent stallion "Durbar."

In December four headmen of the Baphuti were tried and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment for reiterated contumacy and contempt of Chief Griffith's court. In February two of these men appeared to have discovered the error of their conduct, and after a promise to forgo Mochelo and acknowledge Griffith as their chief, were by consent of the Resident Commissioner released from confinement.

Much excitement and interest was manifested during February by the visit of the High Commissioner to Maseru, and this district was well represented at the gathering.

Hut tax shows a very considerable increase, which I trust will be considered satisfactory.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	10,191	0	0
Licences	212	10	0
Fines	131	7	6
Fees of court	5	17	6
Miscellaneous	140	17	9
Total ...	£10,681	12	3

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 10,104.

Amount of arrear tax paid was £107.

LICENCES.

General traders' licences	18
Hawkers' (paid)	22
" (free)	87
Labour agents	20
Dan licence	1

ANNUAL REPORT—MOHALES HOEK DISTRICT, 1905-6.

The political situation of this district remains in a most satisfactory condition. Tribal disputes are becoming a thing of the past, and I have practically none to report for the year under review.

The inclination on the part of a certain portion of the Baphuti clan to disregard the supremacy of the Chief Griffith in this district appears to be dying out. This is obviously due to the decided action on the part of His Excellency the High Commissioner in the interview with the deposed Chief Mochekho in February last, at Maseru.

Relations with adjoining territories remain most satisfactory, and in consequence crimes of all classes are greatly on the decrease.

Stock thefts reported from adjacent States are of rare occurrence, and those traced are invariably recovered and the thieves punished.

Stock of all descriptions are in good and healthy condition.

The wheat crop in the district may be described as an entire failure, owing to the want of rain during the season. The mealie and Kaffir corn crops are, however, fairly good, and I do not anticipate any scarcity of food.

It is most regrettable that the absence of rain since February has rendered wheat sowing out of the question, and the outlook in this respect for the coming season is gloomy.

The police outpost at Phatlalla continues to be of much service in the prevention of the running of contraband goods.

The roads in the district are much improved, good and substantial work having been put in.

The want of a water supply continues to entail very considerable inconvenience and expense to the inhabitants of the camp. The only available water for domestic purposes is in the Magistracy grounds, which it is needless to say is most inconvenient for all concerned.

In July last the Chief Monare of the Batsung clan died at an advanced age and has been succeeded by his son Tibeli.

REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30th JUNE, 1906.

Table showing the attendances at the various stations :—

District.	New out-patients.	Subsequent attendances.	In-patients.	Vaccinations.
Leribe	4,320	686	142	2,032
Maseru	7,172	1,413	364	—
Mafeteng	5,527	1,084	98	—
Mohales Hoek	2,109	339	46	2,658
Quthing	1,011	225	—	—
Total	20,139	3,747	650	—

The continued increase in the number of in-patients shows how much the improved hospital building is appreciated. We have often pointed out there is a great scope for increase in this direction. It is to be regretted that this branch of the medical work, which undoubtedly has the most civilizing effect on the natives, should be checked for want of accommodation.

Partly to meet this want, the erection of a small hospital at Leribe has been sanctioned, but it will not be completed for nearly eighteen months.

All the medical officers are unanimous in their desire for better hospitals at their respective stations.

Before any further buildings are sanctioned, it would perhaps be better to perfect those we have, and make some provision for meeting emergencies by the appointment of an assistant surgeon at Maseru.

In my last annual report I pointed out the advisability of extending the Maseru Hospital. I wish again to call attention to what I consider is now a pressing necessity.

The hospital is practically always full, and patients are constantly being refused admission for lack of beds.

From an experience during two years' work, several defects both in its structure and organization have become evident.

The structural faults are—an insufficient hot-water supply, the absence of any isolation ward, and various minor defects which could, however, be easily remedied if the building were enlarged

The defects in organisation are as follows :—

First comes the question of the nursing staff which, while just sufficient when the beds are full of ordinary cases, is quite insufficient when there are several serious cases, or when a nurse is ill or absent on leave. On such occasions it has been found necessary to curtail the admission to save the staff. Again, where there are only three nurses, it is difficult to fill vacancies. Nurses dislike the quiet of a small hospital, and resent an unfair amount of work which is often asked of them. Were the institution larger and the staff more numerous these difficulties would disappear, as a press of work would be more evenly distributed and serious cases would receive more individual attention.

Next comes the question of night nursing, which is most urgent. A native night porter, and he is practically nothing else, is not a proper provision for the care of a hospital full of patients.

Reference was made under the heading of structural defects to the absence of any isolation ward.

The need of this has been keenly felt on various occasions, when in the interest of the other patients cases have had to be handed back to the care of friends, for lack of suitable accommodation and attendance.

I have already spoken of the advisability of having an Assistant Surgeon stationed at Maseru. He should be unmarried, reside in the hospital, and be available to relieve any medical officer in the event of illness or other emergency. I consider that at present with only one medical officer at each station, we are running the medical work of the territory on too narrow a margin, and are constantly in danger of a breakdown. This danger will be increased when the Leribe Hospital is opened.

As the defects I have endeavoured to point out above could be remedied at a comparatively small cost, both initial and annual, I would earnestly urge that there should be no further delay in sanctioning a scheme for enlarging the Maseru Hospital, and appointing an Assistant Surgeon. It must not be forgotten that even if sanctioned at once, such a scheme would not be completed under a year.

An initial outlay not exceeding £6,000, spread over a period of one year, for buildings and furniture, would provide 24 additional beds as well as the necessary accommodation for an increased nursing staff and quarters for an Assistant Surgeon. The subsequent annual expenditure would not exceed £1,000.

The total expenditure under Hospitals last year (including all salaries) was only £5,335, while the hospitals themselves contributed £717 towards the Revenue.

This expenditure represents a comparatively small sum when one considers that in return for it 23,886 out-patients and 679 in-patients received treatment. Medical attendance and medicine were provided for all the officials and their families, the gaols attended, and the public health and sanitary services supervised.

The general health of the Territory has been good, and there have been no epidemics of importance.

The extent to which leprosy, syphilis, and tuberculosis prevail are receiving great consideration, and the prevalence of these diseases in native territories will form one of the subjects for discussion at the forthcoming Congress of Medical Officers, to be held in November at Cape Town. I would again call attention to the need for legislative control of medical and pharmacy practice. The possibility of some mutual arrangement on this subject between the various South African Governments might, I think, be profitably discussed at the above-mentioned Congress.

The question of an improved water supply for Maseru ought to be taken in hand as soon as possible.

There are several very insanitary areas on the Reserve which ought to be dealt with. They are a source of danger and could be easily remedied.

Malarial fever is non-existent in Basutoland.

E. C. LONG,

Principal Medical Officer.

Maseru,
30th June, 1906.

LERIBE MEDICAL REPORT, 1905-6.

The following table shows the number of attendances at the hospital and dispensary during the year ending June 30th, 1906 :—

Out-patients	4,320
Subsequent attendances	686
Hospital in-patients	142
Vaccinations...	2,032
Total	7,180

The first three show a considerable increase over last year, and notwithstanding that the general health of the district was good and that there were no widespread or severe epidemics, measles and whooping-cough were prevalent during the summer, but were exceptionally mild.

The greater number of patients seeking advice and medicine at the dispensary suffer from gastric complaints and syphilis ; the former is largely due to the unvaried diet and the habit the natives have of gorging themselves during times of plenty. A fermented drink made from Kaffir corn, which they largely use, is responsible for much of this, and I have noticed that it is exceptionally deleterious to women, in whom after prolonged indulgence it produces a nervous condition simulating peripheral neuritis. The latter (syphilis) is becoming less common and is of an exceedingly mild type, and in many of the cases the disease does not run beyond the secondary stage.

Phthisis is becoming more common in the district, so much so that the natives who are otherwise indifferent to disease are beginning to be alarmed at its spread. Hitherto it has not been indigenous to this part, and the cases seen were boys who had been working on the mines and in Johannesburg ; but now it is attacking others who have never left the country. Measures will have to be taken to impress upon them the infectiousness of this disease, and the danger of overcrowding in the huts at night.

The health of the police and prisoners has been good and calls for no comment.

It is gratifying to note that the Basuto are availing themselves more and more every year of the in-patient department By means of tents, the number of beds has been increased to ten, and during the year they were generally fully occupied. The new hospital which is going to be erected this year will go far to meet the want which has been felt of a fully equipped building on modern lines.

The sanitary condition of this village and camp calls for prompt attention. I have reported on this question elsewhere, and until there are properly made roads and drains and a provision made for removing filth and garbage, there will always be the risk of an outbreak of infectious disease especially in the summer.

The vaccinations have decreased during the year, but this was to be expected as nearly everyone has been vaccinated during the last decade.

N. M. MACFARLANE,
Medical Officer.

Leribe,
June 30th, 1906.

ANNUAL MEDICAL REPORT—MAFETENG DISTRICT, 1905-6.

During the year ending June 30th, 1906, 5,527 out-patients were admitted and treated for the first time, and 1,084 on subsequent occasions, making a total of 6,611, which shows an increase of 1,348 patients on last year.

98 cases were treated as in-patients, of these 54 underwent operation, six were discharged unrelieved, six died, the cases of death being severe burn, pneumonia, acute tuberculosis, acute rheumatism and endocarditis, compound fracture of the skull, perforated gastric ulcer.

The treatment of in-patients is carried on under very unsatisfactory conditions owing to the very dilapidated and miserable accommodation provided for them, and the friends themselves act as nurses, which in many cases tend to hinder the patients' progress.

The number of vaccination certificates issued was 4,834.

There was a rather severe epidemic of varicella at Leduma's and Moyela's in October and November, and during the last two months there has been a large number of cases of gastro-enteritis due most probably to the continual absence of rain.

The health of the camp itself has been good.

On inspection the gaol has always been clean and well kept, and the inmates' health has been good.

H. R. NATTL_,
Medical Officer.

Mafeteng,
30th June, 1906.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT, MOHALES HOEK DISTRICT, 1905-6.

The following table shows the comparative attendances at the hospital and dispensary for the past and present years:—

Attendances.	1904-5.	1905-6.	Increase.	Decrease.
Out-patients, first ...	1,852	2,109	257	—
Subsequent	136	339	203	—
In-patients	25	46	21	—
Paid vaccinations ...	2,642	2,405	—	237
Free ,, ...	—	253	253	—
Totals	4,655	5,152	734	237

Of the 46 cases admitted to the hospital, five died, 35 were cured, three relieved, one not improved, and two still remain under treatment.

On 30 cases operations of varying magnitude were performed, and three of those which died refused operative treatment which alone could have saved their lives.

There were 13 medical cases, mostly of acute disease.

The hospital work is handicapped by the want of accommodation and a nursing staff. Cases cannot be admitted because there is insufficient room, and others requiring skilled post-operative treatment because there is no nursing staff to administer to their needs.

Seeing that the hospital at Maseru, worked on modern lines, has been such a success, I have no hesitation in recommending the erection of a similar institution here.

It is unnecessary for me to point out the far-reaching benefit which would be conferred on the native population in this and adjoining districts.

Mohales Hoek is the centre of South Basutoland geographically, and a hospital built here would, for the time, serve for the accommodation of serious cases from the districts north and south of this station, as well as for cases from this district. As soon therefore as the hospital at Leribe is completed, which will serve North Basutoland, I trust that preparation will be commenced for the carrying through of a similar work here for South Basutoland.

The district has been free of epidemic disease of a serious nature for the past year; there were a few cases of varicella, influenza, mild dysentery, and small-pox; of the latter there were six cases in all, none of which proved fatal.

The health of the police, police families, and prisoners has been good.

I understand that a new gaol and an efficient water supply are practically granted and assured; both will be a great boon to the community.

W. R. NATTLE,
Medical Officer.

Mohales Hoek,
30th June, 1906.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT—QUTHING DISTRICT, 1905-6.

The following return shows the number of patients who attended the dispensary, and the number of vaccinations performed during the past year :—

Out-patients	1,011
Subsequent attendances	225
Vaccinations	1,608

In accordance with instructions from the Principal Medical Officer, received in January, to push vaccination work in this district, between that month and the end of June 11,719 people were either vaccinated or proved to have been previously vaccinated in their own villages.

An epidemic of diphtheria occurred in the district during April and May. I saw 11 cases, of which three died.

I again beg to urge the necessity for a hospital at this station.

There has been no small-pox in the district during the past year.

The health of the police detachment and of the white population has been uniformly good.

Twenty-two operations requiring the use of an anaesthetic have been performed. Under more favourable circumstances the number might have been greater.

HAROLD M. CORY,

Medical Officer.

Quthing,
Basutoland,
30th June, 1906.

ANNUAL REPORT—GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, MASERU, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1906.

In this first annual report it will perhaps be well to review the history of the school from its inception up to the present time. In the year 1898, the late Paramount Chief, Lerothodi, seeing the necessity of industrial training for his people, collected a sum of money from the Basuto and handed the same to the Government for the establishment of an industrial school. Owing to the outbreak of the late Boer war in 1899, the idea of starting the school at once had to be abandoned, the money contributed by the Basuto being placed on fixed deposit in the Standard Bank, and allowed to accumulate.

In July, 1904, a start was made, and the present Director was appointed.

A very suitable site was chosen by His Honour the Resident Commissioner on the outskirts of Maseru, on the bank of the Caledon River. This site was chosen after a great deal of consideration, as it was felt most desirable to have the school as near a market as possible so that there would be an outlet for any goods made in the school, and near the river, so that a good supply of water could be obtained for the use of the school, and, with the view of starting in the future a small model farm for the instruction of natives, to have a sufficiency of water for irrigation purposes.

A scheme for the buildings and appliances necessary was drawn up, costing when completed, £9,500.

To meet this expenditure there was a sum of £4,559 in the Standard Bank, being the contribution from the Basuto.

The expenditure of a sum of £5,000 from the Government funds was authorised by His Excellency the High Commissioner, Viscount Milner, the expenditure to be spread over a period of three years—1905-6, £1,500; 1906-7, £2,500; 1907-8, £1,000.

The plan provided for the following :—

Main school building, consisting of school room and two dormitories, dining hall, Director's house, four cottages for European teachers, four cottages for native teachers, oil engine and pumping plant, workshops for blacksmith, wagon maker and carpenter, main store, tool house, tools, and necessary plant.

A start was made at once with the work of erecting some temporary wood and iron houses for the use of the instructors who were to superintend the erection of the permanent buildings.

Instructors were appointed in carpentry and building, and the permanent buildings were begun.

As far as possible only native workmen were employed on the work, under the guidance of the instructors, and the class of building erected shows how well the work can be done by native workmen.

The majority of native artizans employed were trained at the industrial school, Leloaleng, in connection with the Paris Evangelical Mission Society at Leloaleng, and the work which they accomplished shows what excellent training they have received at that institution under the late Rev. J. Kruger and the Rev. J. T. Bertachy.

It was thought at first that it would be possible to take pupils and board them in Maseru, but after due consideration it was deemed advisable not to take any pupils until accommodation could be provided which would enable discipline to be maintained.

The buildings were pushed ahead as quickly as possible, and towards the end of 1905 the following were finished :—Dining hall and kitchen, Director's house, three houses for European teachers, carpenter's shop, and engine house, and it was felt that, at the beginning of 1906, the time had arrived for receiving a certain number of pupils, who could be housed in the wood and iron buildings which the instructors had vacated. It was notified through the Assistant Commissioners of the various districts that the school would be opened in January, and that applications for admission should be made at once.

Applications came in very quickly, over 70 being received before the school was opened. The school, when completed, will accommodate 80 pupils, but it is not desirable to have so many pupils in their first year. The school course will be one of three years, and it was decided that 30 new pupils should be received every year, and this, owing to boys leaving without completing the course or being expelled, would give, on an average 80 pupils in the school, and would ensure a certain number of them being always in advance of the others. In January, 1906, the following instructors were appointed :—Wagon builder, blacksmith, engineer, and schoolmaster. The school buildings and the carpenter's shop were used during the first three weeks in January for the native teachers' vacation course arranged by Mr. E. B. Sargant, educational adviser to the High Commissioner, and the school instructor in carpentry was employed as assistant in giving a course of woodwork to the native teachers. It is hoped that the industrial school may always be a centre for the teachers' vacation course.

The school opened on January 26th, 1906, with 29 pupils, distributed as follows :—

Carpenter	...	...	...	6 pupils.
Blacksmith	...	...	...	4 „
Engineer	...	...	...	5 „
Wagon builder	...	...	...	5 „
Builder	...	...	...	9 „

During the six months the pupils have been employed on various works.

The builders have completed their work on two native teachers' cottages, and are now employed in erecting the main school building.

The carpenters have been employed on making school furniture, jobbing work for the residents of Maseru, and are now completing the carpenter's work in the two native teachers' cottages. These cottages will be ready for occupation by the native teachers in July.

The wagon builders and blacksmiths have been employed in building a Scotch cart for the Paramount Chief, Letsie, and doing general jobbing work.

The engineers have been employed in looking after the Maseru waterworks, working with the hand-jumper drill, and in pumping water for the school and the railway station, Maseru. A contract has been entered into with the Central South African Railways to supply all water for domestic and locomotive purposes at Maseru station.

The following is the value of the work done in each department during the last six months :—

	£	s.	d.
Building Department	292	13	6
Blacksmith's Department	111	8	2
Carpenter's Department	508	7	6
Wagon Department	84	2	3
Engineer's Department	262	9	1
Total	£1,259	0	6

In February the High Commissioner, His Excellency the Earl of Selborne, during his visit to Maseru, kindly consented to lay the foundation stone of the main school building. The ceremony took place on Tuesday, February 27th. The Paramount Chief, Letsie, and the other chiefs who were in Maseru to welcome His Excellency, were present at the ceremony, and listened with great attention to the address which His Excellency gave on the necessity of every one learning to do some manual work. With the kind permission of His Excellency the school-room will be called "Selborne Hall." The dormitory on the right, by kind permission of His Honour the Resident Commissioner, "Sloley Hall," and that on the left, by permission of the Paramount Chief, "Letsie Hall." To commemorate the efforts of the late Paramount Chief, and the great interest which he took in the establishment of the school for the welfare of his people, the Paramount Chief requested that the dining hall might be called "Lerothodi Hall." This was done, and a marble

slab built into the wall bears the inscription "Lerothodi Hall, 1905."

The staff at present consists of the Director, five European Trade Instructors, European Matron, one Native Instructor, and one Native Schoolmaster.

The hours of work are as follows:—

Winter	...	...	...	7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Summer	...	...	...	6.30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Night school every Evening from 7 to 8.30.

Religious Instruction.—Arrangements have been made for the missionaries of the various bodies working in Basutoland to come and give religious instruction to their own people, and the pupils have to attend the services of their own church every Sunday. A Mission Service is held every Sunday evening in the dining hall by the Director.

During the coming year a sum of £2,500 is to be spent in buildings. The main school building is now two feet above foundation level and will be finished by Christmas, so that there will be accommodation for another thirty pupils. As soon as the main school building is finished the remaining workshops will be built.

The conduct of the pupils generally during the past six months has been good, and I have to thank the staff, European and Native, for the loyal support they have given me, and for the discretion they have exercised in maintaining discipline.

NELSON FOGARTY,

Director of the Government Industrial School.

Maseru,

30th June 1906.

ANNUAL REPORT—GOVERNMENT VETERINARY OFFICER.

I have the honour to submit herewith a report dealing with the observations made by me since the commencement of my duties in January, 1905. As I have previously been in the service of this Administration, viz. 1901-2, this may be said to be my second annual report handed to the Government.

I.—General Remarks.

1. The past 18 months were, from the stockbreeder's standpoint, on a whole, prosperous, inasmuch as no plagues deserving of the name "epidemics" have invaded the country. Rinderpest seems to have died out all over British South Africa, and the much dreaded East Coast fever, owing to the stamping-out policy adopted in the Transvaal and in Natal, has not been able to make much headway within the countries mentioned. But unfortunately it still exists, decimating stock, swallowing large sums of money, and leaving an uneasy feeling in the minds of cattle owners not too far removed from the infected area. It is quite probable that as a result of the native rebellion, East Coast fever will spread through Zululand causing, as in Swaziland, untold misery and loss to the native population.

2. Owing to the war in German South-West Africa, a brisk trade in horses was carried on all over Basutoland, and large numbers of cattle were brought into the country in exchange for these solipedes. The wants of the Basuto being few and their love of stock great, cash is rarely accepted, but I have no doubt that in the not too far distant future, when stockbreeding will be found less profitable than to-day and the removal of stock from place to place more difficult, this ancient form of bartering live-stock will gradually disappear.

At the present time anybody may introduce any animal into Basutoland without producing a health certificate or causing an examination, a system which offers no protection whatever to our native stock-owners, and which for this reason will sooner or later show its deleterious influence upon our breeding industries.

3. My observations have convinced me that Basutoland is already by no means in the happy position of being free from the majority of our South African stock diseases. This idea could only hold good as long as there was nobody in the country who possessed sufficient interest and experience in such matters. But even now, on account of the non-existence of a suitable Contagious Diseases Act and the absence of a reliable executive

staff, our knowledge of the outbreaks of disease is very incomplete and our dealings in this connection imperfect.

4. Our livestock, horses, cattle, sheep and goats represent probably a value of about four millions sterling. They form by far the most important and the most valuable asset of our national wealth, and thus are bound to be objects worthy of our strenuous protection and constant improvement. I hope that when the next return of stock is being taken, our sheep and goats will be included in the census. It may be difficult to guess the number, but I do not think we have less than one million small stock in Basutoland.

5. The annual expenditure in the veterinary and stock departments is gradually increasing, and amounts at the present time to about £2,500. Of course this sum appears somewhat insignificant when compared with the considerable value represented by our domestic animals or when placed side by side with the great efforts made in the same direction by the adjoining colonies, but then it must be remembered that conditions in a native Protectorate differ much from those obtaining in more civilized countries, and that the departments above mentioned are only in their initial, I may say embryonic, stage.

II.—Special Remarks.

With reference to those infective stock diseases which, during the past eighteen months have more frequently come to my notice or which from their very nature command our special attention, I beg to submit to you the following remarks, viz. :—

1. *Glanders.*—It is a most regrettable fact that this insidious and pernicious plague has of late years found its way into Basutoland, and that it has come to stay unless most vigorously dealt with. The spread of this disease is slow, but sure, and the process of suppression, particularly in a native territory, by no means easy and inexpensive, yet on it depends undoubtedly the future prosperity of our horse-breeding industry. We have no special form of glanders in South Africa requiring less care or doing less damage, but it is everywhere the same old fiend, ready to infect, to destroy, to stay, and thus to ruin a most important industry, if unchecked, almost beyond repair.

The disease, as far as I am aware, seems confined to the northern half of Basutoland, most outbreaks having occurred in Maseru and Teyateyaneng, town and district. The details of these cases formed subjects of exhaustive reports.

In order to deal effectively with glanders, it is incumbent to place the matter in all its aspects before the "National Council," and to draft regulations which are up to date and which should be enforced without fear or favour. They should embrace early notification of suspicious symptoms, immediate destruction of

actually diseased animals, and some sort of compensation, in money or cattle, for the losses sustained. In-contact animals should be tested with mallein, or by the agglutination method, the latter preferably where the horses of natives are under supervision. If the disease is to be eradicated it must be dealt with by means of hard and fast rules, and any contraventions must be made punishable under the law.

Of other contagious diseases in horses I have seen cases of strangles, scab, biliary fever, ulcerous lymphangitis, maladies which, when compared with the one above mentioned, are but of small importance. But it should not be forgotten that some of the last named are put under Government control in the adjoining colonies, and therefore must command our continued interest lest they may prove a serious hindrance to the sale and export of our Basuto ponies.

2. *Quarter Evil or "Serotsoana."*—This is a plague well known throughout Basutoland, and much dreaded by the natives on account of its rapid fatal course. Its originating cause is a specific microbe called "Clostridium sarcophysomatos," which finds exceedingly favourable biological conditions in the grassy slopes of our mountains. Unfortunately we do not yet possess any statistics as to our losses from various diseases, but I am certain that "Serotsoana" carries off thousands of cattle every year. The native habit of cutting up in the veld for home consumption anything that dies is bound to soil and to infect the pasturage, a process which tends to make the evil a permanent one, as the spores formed are able to resist sunshine or frost for a very considerable time.

I have endeavoured to teach the native and European cattle breeders the Blacklegine method of protective inoculation, which is both simple and useful, and therefore best adapted to Basutoland under the present circumstances. This mode of combating Quarter Evil leaves hardly anything to be desired, and will, I am sure, be found invaluable in many parts of Basutoland which at present are veritable death-traps to young cattle.

The kind offer to make the treatment of this plague a matter of private business, a proposal made probably with the view of bringing my emoluments more in line with those received during previous appointments, I did not see fit to accept. Virulent diseases of this description should be incorporated in an "Animal Diseases Act," and all dealings with them should, as the best interests of the country demand, be official and free of any charge. I am only following the good example set by other Governments in South Africa and elsewhere.

3. *Anthrax or "Kwatsi."*—I have reason to believe that this dangerous malady is a frequent though unwelcome guest in many native kraals of this land. One of the most serious outbreaks unfortunately occurred in the township of Maseru, necessitating

the immunisation, by means of Pasteur's double injections, of a large number of cattle. The method is not expensive and as a rule very efficient. As the handling of diseased carcases, the use of the meat and hide not only badly and often permanently infects the veld, but is also dangerous to man, the necessity of burying the victims of this plague becomes apparent, wherever it is of importance to quickly rid the community of this malady. Infected townships, such as Maseru for instance, can do no better than to set aside and to fence in a small piece of ground, making the burial of diseased stock compulsory. This plan involves little expenditure and would go a long way to prevent the constant re-infection of the pasture in different places, and many other nuisances dangerous to life and property.

4. Of other cattle plagues, notably *ordinary redwater* and contagious pleuro-pneumonia, only the former has twice been reported to me, the animal in each case coming from Griqualand East, where this tick disease is known to be indigenous. In the past, intercourse between our country and the one mentioned being very rare and the frosts in the open mountain veld being more or less incompatible with the comfort of ticks, we have so far escaped serious inroads.

I do, however, by no means think that Basutoland possesses an absolutely unassailable immunity against redwater, and every careful student will agree with me that care and foresight are required to keep our cattle free from this scourge for an indefinite period. Supervision of all traffic in cattle across our eastern border, and the erection of cattle dipping baths at suitable places, are means worth considering, and better than closing a boundary altogether, a measure which, being inconveniently rigorous, is simply disregarded if not backed up by a large police force.

Cases of pleuro-pneumonia or contagious lung sickness, called "sterefe" by the natives, have not come to my knowledge, although I have dealt with pneumonia of a non-infectious type. It is impossible to decide whether we are actually free from this plague or not, as the information from native villages in our various districts, referring to the health of all live stock, is generally scant and unsatisfactory.

It would be very gratifying if the Assistant Commissioners could induce the natives within their jurisdiction to report regularly any deaths due to contagious or any other diseases of a virulent nature, even if it is not contemplated to take, at the beginning, any other steps but to record such outbreaks, and to give free advice and assistance.

Such compulsory notification, which is the indispensable foundation of the work entrusted to any veterinary department, would and could not be a tax upon the Treasury of the country, and the reports submitted from time to time would form most

interesting and important documents, giving a true picture of the state of affairs.

(5.) *Small stock.*—The most important troubles amongst our sheep and goats are the parasitic skin diseases commonly called "scab, brandsickte or lekhuekhue." Its presence in Basutoland is almost ubiquitous, though it is certainly less striking than anywhere else in South Africa, where farming and climatic conditions are more favourable to a rapid development and propagation of the malady. Small flocks able, as in the case here, to obtain plenty of nourishing food and pure running water withstand, as a rule, the ravages of the acari to a very considerable degree, although any changes to conditions more suitable to the life of these insects at once bring out the real nature and troublesomeness of this plague. It is due to this fact that our neighbours in the Orange River Colony and in the Cape have lately begun to look upon our small stock with misgivings and to ask for protection. In this manner the thorny subject of scab legislation has at last, even in Basutoland, become somewhat acute, and I have no doubt, unless it is handled carefully and intelligently, that the adjoining States will enforce regulations which would naturally be severely felt by all those desirous of taking small stock across our borders into their country. Of course, the fact cannot be contradicted that scab exists to a more or less considerable extent within their own territory, but as they are spending yearly large sums of money on schemes intended to minimize the ravages of this plague and, if possible, even to completely eradicate it, they are in duty bound to see that no re-infection from outside is possible. Without such regulations their measures would only be half measures, unfit to command success.

Our policy is to establish public dipping stations throughout the country, where the natives can be taught that scab is a curable disease. To increase their attention and energy I have issued a pamphlet which, written in popular language, explains the malady and its treatment and at the same time deals with all other points which, bearing upon the subject, should be of interest to owners and breeders of stock.

So far the districts of Mafeteng, Maseru, and Teyateyaneng possess each a dipping tank with water laid on in pipes, and I have no doubt they have done good work. As a result of the small charge, viz., one penny per animal for two dippings, thousands of small stock have passed through the tanks, which are in charge of a native.

Naturally these Government dipping stations, few and far between as they are, are no more than object lessons to the Basuto who themselves should club together and build, if thought fit, assisted by their paternal administration, in each district and close to some stream of water, simple dipping arrangements,

consisting, indeed, of nothing else but a small stone kraal with a small tank, round, square, or long, in the centre, and a dry well outside to receive the dirty water. Such a station, whilst as serviceable as a more elaborate one, would cost very little, no more than £40 or £50 fully equipped, and would be a factor in minimizing the damage done to wool, skins and mutton. Scab, like glanders, is a subject well worthy of the deliberations of the "National Council" and will, I trust, receive due attention at their next meeting.

With fair means at its disposal, any country will find it easy enough to cure the majority of sheep or goats and to put a severe check upon the ravages of scab, but the complete and permanent eradication may truly be described a Sisyphean task. The Australian Colonies have accomplished it, but then South Africa is not Australia, where the conditions were less intricate than in this sub-continent. A big native territory like Basutoland, inhabited by vast numbers of semi-civilized people, offers undoubtedly the greatest possible obstacles besides the political aspect which it involves and which can only be overcome by an increased amount of tact and a more liberal supply of cash.

If ever scab is to be exterminated from within our own borders, a scheme much to be desired and quite feasible in theory and practice, although by no means an easy task, let me hope it will be performed in accordance with the proverbial "surgical operation," *i.e.*, slowly conceived, well planned, and energetically carried out, removing the evil root and branch to return no more. South African Governments so far have preferred to adopt the "slow but sure"—so called—process, forgetting completely the true nature of scab and thus courting defeat by the little acari from the very beginning.

III.—Stock Department.

6. *Agricultural Shows.*—During the past 18 months, Shows were held in various districts of Basutoland. In Maseru they took place on May 23rd, 1905, and also 1906, and on the whole they were fairly well patronised by the natives of the district. I have no hesitation in saying that exhibitions of farm stock and of agricultural produce can be made important factors in advancing these industries, and I am glad to acknowledge that they are encouraged all over Basutoland. In a native country this appears to me particularly important, because its inhabitants rarely improve their knowledge on these subjects by means of travel or reading.

In order to make our local Show the premier exhibition of Basutoland and to do justice to animals, exhibiters, visitors, and judges, the establishment of a permanent Show ground, suitably fitted up, is a *conditio sine qua non*. The present complete

absence of suitable fixtures, which renders it necessary to prepare the show ground afresh year after year, entails much waste of time, energy and material, which means money, makes the inspection of the animals not what it ought to be, a movement which is specially felt by those who so kindly consent to act as judges. Granted the necessary facilities are forthcoming, the scope of the Maseru Show could be increased by holding shoeing and shearing competitions, by demonstrating dipping, and exhibiting good fleeces of wool and mohair and showing the interested public good specimens of stud animals, stallions and rams, the property of the Government.

7. *Stallions.*—For the purpose of improving our breed of horses the Administration has during the past year imported two more English Arabs, bred by Mr. W. S. Blunt, Crabbet Park, Sussex. Unfortunately the stallion "Munir," imported some time ago from the same stock, died in October last somewhat suddenly—it is stated from acute peritonitis—at the station Mohales Hoek. The Government possesses at present nine stud stallions of which some are of English and some of Indian origin, all Arabs, and I have no doubt that they have done some good work in the past, begetting a number of superior foals. However, the question arises, can means and ways be found which would bring their good services more in proportion to the expenditure incurred.

The number of mares served by these stallions is far below the usual average, and the percentage of foals born of these mares is apparently small, although for want of proper statistics the latter cannot be determined. I would suggest that in future the date of birth and the description of the foals be entered in the Magisterial registration books, and that in addition all stock bred from our Arabs be branded with a distinguishing mark.

The solution of the question, how to obtain a more satisfactory birth rate is as difficult as it is important, and the only way, in my opinion, is the establishment of small stud farms. Approved mares which are about to foal are by their owners taken to these places, kept for a few weeks and served by one of the stallions within 10 days after the foaling, which is the best time. The mare then returns to her own pastures and the mongrel stallion in the neighbourhood will rarely find a chance of competing with the Arab and having his own offspring shown and sold as a Government foal.

Under these conditions the Administration could, with the greatest advantage to both itself and the country, keep a number of good mares for breeding purposes, using the best of the progeny for stud purposes and selling the rest to private individuals. Time would soon show which of our Arab stallions are really worth keeping for stud purposes and which are useless, and the latter should be sold and replaced by better ones.

8. *Sheep.*—In April last the Government purchased 40 rams of the Rambouillet type, bred by the Hon. W. Rogers of Glencairn, Cathcart, Cape Colony. The animals were distributed amongst a number of chiefs and it is to be hoped they will, with the additions to follow during the coming financial year, benefit the wool growers of Basutoland which, owing to its excellent pasturage and its bracing climate, is particularly well suited to the production of the robust strain of the Merino. As the land enjoys freedom from those pests which have spelled complete ruination to the sheep-farming industry in many parts of South Africa, it could be made one of the finest sheep and wool producing countries in the world. Scab and burweed are the only factors which have to be taken into serious consideration, and both being due to tangible and visible agents, can be overcome and stripped of all danger by a wise expenditure of money and energy.

Owing to a fair amount of rain falling every year and an air which is rarely pregnant with dust, our wool is very light, and, therefore, paid for by traders at a comparatively high figure. But I venture to say that provided the quality of the fibre of the wool is duly improved, there is no reason why Basutoland should not produce first-class fleeces, commanding the same values as the best Eastern province grass veld wools. Capital, energy and intelligent breeding combined could achieve this end before many years have passed, and we have in our small stock an asset the importance of which cannot be estimated too highly and which it is quite possible and probable will outlast every other farming industry in Basutoland.

9. *Locusts.*—These destructive creatures do not seem to have done very much damage to the natives' crops during the past seasons, and wherever they did put in their appearance the Basuto were not idle in seizing their opportunity of taking back a fair equivalent of the damage done by catching and drying large numbers of the insects. It meant exchanging bread for meat—in my opinion a most suitable and effective way of dealing with the locust plague and well worth copying elsewhere. It is even practicable where the people themselves do not look upon locusts as fit articles for food, for the domestic animals from the fowl upwards and including the horse are by no means fastidious in this respect. They can not only live but even thrive and fatten on them in times of scarcity of food. Ground up and mixed with bran they would form a most nourishing substance of considerable market value.

IV.—Concluding Remarks.

In addition to the contagious diseases work which I have been called upon to do, I have embraced every opportunity of assisting owners of stock in cases of ordinary ailments, and I am glad to think that in this manner I have been of service to the public of

Basutoland, its white and black inhabitants. My advice and help to them has throughout been given free of charge, thus following the example of the Cape Colonial Veterinary Department and other South African Colonies, and no doubt this *modus operandi* has acted as a stimulus, for I have treated 1,073 cases of illness amongst horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, dogs, cats, and fowls. During the same period I have also despatched 423 official reports, letters, memos, and telegrams.

I have been 63 days absent from headquarters on duty, travelling in the districts of Maseru, Berea, Leribe, and Mafeteng. I also visited Cathcart, Cape Colony, in connection with the purchase of rams.

My subsistence and travelling allowance has during this period been raised to £50 per annum, an amount which, with due economy on my part, has been sufficient to cover the expenses incurred; but I venture to say, in the interest of the country and the work to be done, that a veterinary officer should not be tied down to a certain fixed allowance which on the face of it might at any time prove insufficient. For if the funds are exhausted before the termination of the financial year, the officer in charge of the department finds himself on the horns of a dilemma; he must either pay for the contagious diseases work out of his own pocket when visiting the reported outbreaks, or he must try to eradicate the pests by letter, which is an impossibility.

For the same period and purpose a subordinate veterinary officer in the Orange River Colony receives £250 and in the other Colonies a daily subsistence allowance with a refund of all travelling expenses is being paid out, a procedure which is but fair and reasonable. When diseases had to be investigated, attended to, and speedily eradicated, I have myself in previous appointments often been obliged to spend in one month a sum equal to what I now must consider a twelve-months' allowance.

I have, &c.,

OTTO HENNING,

Government Veterinary Officer.

Maseru,

June 30th, 1906.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

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No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
485	Hong Kong	1905
486	St. Helena	"
487	Weihaiwei	"
488	Gold Coast	"
489	Seychelles	"
490	Falkland Islands	"
491	Gambia...	"
492	Jamaica	1904–1905
493	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1905
494	Ceylon	"
495	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
496	Bahamas	1905–1906
497	Barbados	"
498	Malta	1905
499	British Central Africa Protectorate	1905–1906
500	Colonial Survey Committee	"
501	Grenada	1905
502	Straits Settlements	"
503	Gibraltar	"
504	Trinidad and Tobago...	1905–1906
505	St. Lucia	1905
506	Mauritius	"
507	Southern Nigeria (Lagos)	"
508	Somaliland	1905–1906
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510	St. Vincent	1905–1906
511	Sierra Leone	1905
512	Southern Nigeria	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

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29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Island	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.
31	Northern Nigeria	Cotton, &c.
32	Do. do.	Mineral Survey.
33	Southern Nigeria	Do.
34	Montserrat	Agricultural Industry.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis ...	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.
37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904–5.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 556

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1906-7.

(For Report for 1905-6, *see* No. 513.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
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1908.

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" " " DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL	49
" " " GOVERNMENT VETERINARY OFFICER	51

No. 556.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1905-6, *see* No. 513.)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

High Commissioner's Office,
Johannesburg,
18th November, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland, enclosing the Annual Reports on that territory for the year 1906-7, together with a copy of my reply.

I have, &c.,
SELBORNE,
High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, K.G., G.C.S.I.
&c., &c., &c.

1125 Wt 34282 3/08 D & S 5 31041 A 2

Résident Commissioner's Office,

Maseru,

15th October, 1907.

My Lord,

I have the honour to forward the Annual Reports of the Government Secretary, the Assistant Commissioners, and other officers for the year ended 30th June, 1907.

The revenue of Basutoland during the year has exceeded all previous collections, amounting to £111,903 17*s.* 9*d.*, the principal increase being in hut-tax and Customs.

The expenditure has amounted to £108,832 19*s.* 4*d.* The details and comparative revenue and expenditure for the past five years are given in the Government Secretary's report.

In spite of the depression prevailing throughout South Africa, and notwithstanding the complaints of traders as to the dulness of business, the trade conditions in Basutoland as evidenced by the returns of imports and exports have been fairly satisfactory. The Basuto appear to have done well with their produce, especially mealies, mohair, and wool, and native labourers have continued to bring money into the country. In this connection I have to record my impression that a very large proportion of labourers' wages is spent by them before their return to Basutoland. It is impossible to form anything like a reliable estimate of what proportion of their earnings is so spent, but judging by the quantity of newly purchased articles they bring with them it must be considerable.

Vigorous efforts were made in the spring to destroy the swarms of young locusts which either hatched in Mafeteng District or crossed into Basutoland from the Orange River Colony. Separate reports on this campaign against locusts have been submitted. It has been estimated that 80 per cent. of the swarms were destroyed by the approved method of spraying with a solution of arsenite of soda.

Steps have been taken to encourage the production of good wool by the introduction of well-bred sheep rams, and by additions to the number of dipping stations erected for the use of native sheep owners. I am confident that a steady continuance

of this policy of fostering production of wool and mohair will in time materially tend to the increased prosperity of the country. It is to be regretted that the inferior quality of the grain produced by the natives neutralises the advantages of soil and climate which they enjoy.

The following legislative Proclamations were issued during the year :—

Proclamation No. 20 of 1906.—Extending to Basutoland the Imperial Foreign Enlistment Act of 1870.

Proclamation No. 22 of 1906.—Announcing that the Transvaal Colony and Bechuanaland Protectorate have respectively made due provision for persons resident there to attend the Courts of Basutoland as witnesses.

Notice 107 of 1906.—Notification by the High Commissioner that due provision has been made in Basutoland for compelling the attendance of witnesses resident therein before the Courts of the Bechuanaland Protectorate.

Proclamation 27 of 1906.—Further amending the Customs Law with regard to spirits imported into and distilled in Basutoland.

Notice 1 of 1907.—Publishing Order in Council entitled "Inter-Colonial Council South Africa Order in Council," authorising among other amounts the loan of £90,000 by the Government of Basutoland for the construction of the Maseru Railway, to the Inter-Colonial Council.

Proclamation No. 16 of 1907.—Consolidating and amending the law which is in force in Basutoland relating to Stamp Duties and fees on documents payable by means of stamps.

A report by the Director of the Industrial School at Maseru is attached.

During the year the provisional appointment of an Education officer has been made. I hope this will tend to the increased efficiency of the instruction in the Mission Schools. There has been a further slight falling-off in the number of scholars attending the aided schools.

It is discouraging to note that among the older scholars there appears to be a growing tendency towards impatience of control and discipline. A similar tendency is observable among a certain section of the educated youth of the country who, at times, in contributions to the native press, criticise the Government and its representatives in what appears to be a tone of jealousy and ill-will. The spirit thus exhibited by some native contributors to the local newspapers resembles to a certain extent what I understand to be that expressed in the newspaper utterances of the corresponding class of the population both in India and Egypt. The representatives of this class in Basutoland are not at present either numerous or influential.

The Government Medical Officers' reports show the nature and extent of the hospital and dispensary work that is being done. I trust that the new hospital at Leribe may be opened before the end of December, and I anticipate that it will largely increase the medical and surgical advantages offered to the people.

The judicial returns show a regrettable increase in the number of arrests and convictions for illicit introduction of intoxicating drink. The police do good work in endeavouring to grapple with this demoralising traffic, but liquor can be obtained by natives with great ease in the Orange River Colony and the Cape Colony. Sixty-seven arrests of smugglers were effected, but there is reason to think that by far the greater number of offenders escape uncaught and unpunished.

The reorganisation of the Post and Telegraph offices has been carried out under the advice of an official kindly detached for the purpose by the Postmaster-General of the Cape Colony.

The following are the principal public works completed during the year under report :—

A reservoir holding 300,000 gallons for Maseru water supply.
New dispensary at Maseru hospital.
New stables for officers at Maseru.
New Post Office and Postmaster's Quarters at Morija.
New water supply at Mohales Hoek.
New gaol at Mohales Hoek.
New water supply at Qacha's Nek.
New bridge on Caledon between Basutoland and Orange River Colony (built in co-operation with the Government of the Orange River Colony).

Notwithstanding the numerous existing disputes between chiefs as to land and chieftainship, the internal condition of the country has been peaceful. The Paramount Chief, Letsie, apparently abstains from mischievous interference in the wards of other chiefs, and has not encouraged the intrigues which are so frequently the causes of inter-tribal strife. He and the other chiefs have given the necessary assistance when called on, in the matter of collection of revenue and detection of crime. I trust in time to be able to arouse the chiefs to a more lively sense of their responsibilities with regard to such matters as locust destruction, eradication of burrweed, and scab. Your Excellency's own addresses to Letsie and other chiefs at Mohales Hoek and Leribe upon these and similar subjects cannot fail to have a good effect.

Few of the chiefs seem able to restrain themselves in the matter of strong drink, although they all acquiesce in the wisdom of the restrictions on the introduction of liquor, and on occasion give active assistance in the arrest of brandy

smugglers. They have, as a rule, exercised their authority over their people with justice and moderation, but a few instances of unjust or venal treatment of cases have been brought to my notice. The adjustment of such cases of appeal is one of the most difficult questions that have to be dealt with by myself or the District Officers and calls for the exercise of special tact and firmness.

The protection of the interests of Basutoland subjects who may have cases in the Courts of the Orange River Colony and Cape Colony also presents peculiar difficulties. The fact that a native is not allowed to sue in such Courts except through the intervention of a law agent, who usually demands a deposit in advance (often exceeding the value of the goods or amount sued for), is a great cause of complaint, and in many cases is prohibitive as regards a native's access to a Court of Justice. During the year I had to forward to Your Excellency the papers in a case wherein the costs of a suit concerning 17 cattle, worth probably £120, amounted to £261; judgment in this particular case was "absolution from the instance."

I would like again to place on record my appreciation of the good work performed by the officers and employees of the Government Service.

I have, &c.,

H. C. SLOLEY,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency
The Right Honourable
The Earl of Selborne, P.C., G.C.M.G.,
High Commissioner,
South Africa.

THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1906–7.

Government Secretary's Office,
Maseru,
30th June, 1907.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward you herewith the usual Annual Reports for Basutoland for the year ending 30th June, 1907, and also the Statistical Returns for the Territory for the same period compiled from these Reports and from other sources. The Customs Returns, however, in compliance with

the custom prevailing throughout South Africa, are for the year ending 31st December, 1906.

The past year has been a welcome change agriculturally from the preceding ones. After a dry spring, plentiful, well-distributed rains fell in September, and continued throughout the year until well into the winter. This cessation of drought and the consequent agricultural prosperity will, I think, be found reflected in most of the returns contained in this Report.

In October, 1906, for the first time for many years, voetganger locusts hatched out in Basutoland, while the Territory was also invaded by large swarms which crossed the border from the Orange River Colony. Energetic measures were taken against them with soap and arsenical sprays, and a very large proportion were destroyed before they got their wings or did much damage. In March, 1907, flying locusts entered the country from the Orange River Colony and did a good deal of damage, but fortunately their arrival so late in the year did not allow of their sweeping off the fast ripening crops, as would have been the case had they made their appearance earlier.

Altogether a sum of £1,897 was spent on the locust campaign in Basutoland.

Financial.

Revenue has risen from £98,515 to £111,903, while expenditure has increased from £93,333 to £108,832. I attach a comparative return of revenue and expenditure for the last five years :—

Year ending	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
30th June, 1903	101,399 4 2	76,271 12 11
30th June, 1904	106,794 15 8	72,393 18 4
30th June, 1905	97,034 1 6	78,837 8 2
30th June, 1906	98,515 6 3	93,333 13 8
30th June, 1907	111,903 17 9	108,832 19 4

I also attach a Return of the revenue for the year in detail of heads of receipt :—

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	64,870	0	0
Licences	3,948	4	9
Fees of Court	187	18	11
Post Office	3,453	8	9
Miscellaneous	1,532	17	0
Customs	31,432	2	8
Interest	6,479	5	8
Total ...	£111,903	17	9

Expenditure for the same period £108,832 19*s.* 4*d.*

During the period under report hut tax was paid on 63,611 huts, while £1,807 arrear hut tax was received as against £1,811 the previous year. The total current tax shows an increase of some £2,000 over 1905–6.

COMMERCIAL.

Return of Imports and Exports for the last Five Years.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1903 Dutiable Imports	191,019	258,927
1904 Total Imports	298,140	127,057
1905 „ „	149,821	164,817
1906 „ „	191,701	172,496
1907 „ „	242,353	185,155

The Imports and Exports of the Territory certainly show well when compared with last year, both as regards quantity and money value. Grain and produce, though far below what they should be with continuous good seasons, show a great improvement on the previous years of drought. Wheat, maize, and Kafir corn exported show an increase of nearly 100 per cent., while wool and mohair have each increased about 25 per cent. There being no further demand for remounts for the German Government, there is, of course, a heavy falling off under this head.

The following is a table of exports :—

Articles and Livestock.	Quantity in lbs. or No.	Value.
Livestock—		£
Horses	125	3,283
Cattle	272	3,360
Sheep and goats	371	294
All other : Pigs, poultry, &c.	—	484
Corn, grain and flour—		
Kafir corn	2,644,227	6,780
Maize...	21,114,704	47,747
Oats	199,138	681
Wheat	1,770,335	6,538
Flour, wheaten	43,587	277
All other	75,952	223
Hair, Angora	680,947	26,191
Hides and skins—		
Hides, cattle	11,813	326
Skins, sheep and goats ...	79,977	1,654
Wool, sheep	3,733,776	82,330
Miscellaneous	—	586
„ (imported goods	—	4,401
		£185,155

While on the one hand the exports of the year are satisfactory, it is pleasant to be able to report a similar rise in the imports.

I give below a return of the imports, which show an increase of about £50,000.

Articles, &c.	Value.
	£
Animals: Horses, cattle, sheep, &c.	2,567
Apparel, slops, &c.	15,200
Bags of all sorts	7,668
Beads of all sorts	1,069
Cotton piece-goods	12,871
Cotton manufactures	22,146
Food and drink, articles of	23,800
Haberdashery and millinery	17,581
Hardware and cutlery, fencing material, &c...	8,473
Hats and caps	1,176
Implements (agricultural)	3,940
Leather and leather manufactures (including boots and shoes and saddlery)	14,485
Soap of all kinds	3,696
Wood, manufactured and unmanufactured ...	4,162
Woollen manufactures (including blankets and shawls)	69,790
All other articles of merchandise	33,729
Total	242,353

The above figures include importations of South African produce from other territories amounting to £29,827.

LICENCES.

The following licences were issued during the year :—

General trader	168
Hawkers (paid)	405
„ (free)	203
Mill licence	1
Labour Agents	298

PASSES.

The return of passes for visiting and labour which I give below seems to suggest some interesting facts and figures regarding the movements of the native population in good years and bad. The year 1905–6 may, I think, be taken as a bad year, while 1906–7, with its plentiful rains, was distinctly a good one. A comparison of the returns of passes for these two years seems to point out that as the population increases and the country fills up the native population is showing a tendency to divide itself into two distinct classes of labour, namely the agriculturist and the mine labourer. It would appear that year in and year out the latter goes to his work at the mines, while, on the other hand, it appears that the native farmer who, in bad years, went out to "miscellaneous" farm and domestic labour, in a good year remains at home and tills his land. Thus it will be seen that while the mine labourers of 1905–6 and 1906–7 show little difference in numbers there is a falling-off of more than 19,000 in farm, domestic and miscellaneous work, while "visitors" remain practically unchanged for both years :—

Return of Passes in Detail.

Return of Passes Issued.

Districts.	Visiting in Orange River Colony.	Visiting in Cape Colony.	Visiting in Natal.	Transvaal Mines.	Indwe Coal Mines.	O. R. C. Mines.	Jagersfontein Mines.	Railway Construction	Farm and Domestic.	Miscellaneous Work.	Kimberley Mines.	Johannesburg Municipality	Totals.
Leribe	19,780	176	—	6,473	—	—	—	4,022	2,271	18,469	231	—	51,482
Berea	4,389	83	—	2,101	—	—	—	2,529	1,807	703	635	—	12,247
Maseru	8,835	271	—	7,462	—	1,253	—	62	273	2,270	833	483	21,742
Mafeteng	7,574	676	—	1,086	2	164	842	125	4,707	3,367	448	—	18,991
Mohales Hoek	1,103	1,009	—	294	3	519	404	—	2,151	2,063	641	—	8,187
Quthing	205	3,365	—	51	10	15	88	30	700	1,412	23	—	5,899
Qacha's Nek	151	3,267	216	141	13	—	—	10	888	4,596	55	—	9,337
Total	42,037	8,847	216	17,608	28	1,951	1,334	6,778	12,797	32,880	2,926	483	127,885

Summary of Passes for Labour.

—	Orange River Colony.	Cape Colony.	Natal	Transvaal.	Farm and Domestic.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
1905–6...	12,699	3,016	—	14,012	18,802	46,480	95,009
1906–7...	9,961	2,994	—	18,091	12,797	32,942	76,785

Summary of Passes for Visiting.

Year.	Totals. £
1905–6	50,889
1906–7	51,100

Native Deposit and Remittance.

The Deposit and Remittance Branch of the Transvaal Native Affairs Department being now closed no money was received from that source for distribution as was the case last year.

Police and Judicial.

Police and gaol Returns for the Territory will be found below :—

European officers	14
„ constables	6
Native officers	4
„ constables	4
„ sergeants	9
„ corporals	10
„ privates	246

Police Patrol Return.

The police have done well during the year ; they are practically up to full strength, and are all mounted and equipped serviceably for the work they are called upon to perform.

Number of patrols	2,036
„ men on patrol	2,858
„ miles patrolled	66,656
Arrests under liquor laws	67
„ „ pass laws	129
Other offences	109

Gaol Return.

Prisoners received into gaol	453
„ convicted	315
„ discharged unconvicted ...	124
„ in gaol 30th June, 1907 ...	103
Floggings inflicted	Nil

Judicial Cases.

Judicial cases as under were heard in the Courts of the Assistant Commissioners for the Territory :—

Culpable homicide	8
Theft	67
Pass regulations	120
Liquor regulations	32
Trading regulations	27
Resisting police	10
Assault	20
Rape	Nil
Other crimes	77
Civil cases	29

Education.

In the matter of education there again appears a slight falling-off in the number of scholars in the Government-aided schools.

—	1905–1906.	1906–1907.
Expenditure	£11,119 15*s.* 4*d.*	£14,000 16*s.* 11*d.*
Schools	246	250
Scholars	12,490	12,275
Mean average attendance	9,704	9,454

Post and Telegraph.

During the past year the reorganisation of the whole Post and Telegraph Department of the Territory has been completed. The postmasters have been properly graded, the post offices renovated and brought up to date, and the whole Department placed on a sound footing to cope with the increased work which of late has been demanded from it.

The thanks of this Government are due to the Postmaster-General of Cape Colony for the following postal statistics which he has kindly furnished :—

Correspondence.

Letters posted in Basutoland	356,915
„ received in Basutoland	388,297

Money Orders.

		£	*s.*	*d.*
Issued	5,593—Value	16,278	16	8
Paid	2,984 „	13,208	4	3

Savings Bank.

			£	*s.*	*d.*
Deposits	... 294	—Value	2,345	11	6
Withdrawals	... 96	„	1,272	4	4

Telegraphs.

The Revenue derived from this source was £1,093 13*s.* 8*d.*

Postal Notes.

			£	*s.*	*d.*
Issued ...	... 1,960	—Value	621	2	9
Paid ...	... 2,681	„	1,179	18	6

The average rainfall throughout the year for seven stations was 41·49 inches, being an increase of 15·15 inches on the previous year.

I have, &c.,

L. WROUGHTON,
Government Secretary.

The Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

ANNUAL REPORT—LERIBE DISTRICT, 1906-1907.

There has been no great change in the political state of the district since last year, though here and there a slight improvement is perceptible. This is especially so at Makhoakhoeng, where Letsika has at last been brought to see the futility of trying to disown his eldest son, and the result is that the state of the ward is more peaceful and orderly than I have ever known it to be.

Things at Tsime are just as they were, though quite lately, owing to a recent *entente* between Jonathan and Joel, they seem to be mending, but as I believe the *entente* is only for a particular purpose, and not likely to be more than temporary, I do not see much chance of a permanent settlement growing out of it.

As I ventured to hint in last year's report, Jonathan found himself compelled to make a pronouncement upon the position of

his two principal sons Tau and Mateadira, but the pronouncement was rather equivocal and indecisive, and in effect left matters very much as they were before. I am not prepared to say that this is altogether deplorable, as I think there is something to be said for the view which I suggested last year—that a definite pronouncement might very possibly precipitate a disturbance.

The Leribe Chiefs have recently resuscitated their old claim to a definite portion of the mountain pasturage. I believe the claim, as an abstract question, has much to be said for it, but the ground they are claiming is now, and has been for many years, in effective, though not undisputed, occupation by the sons of Letsie, and even if the justice of the Leribe claim were admitted, it would be difficult to dislodge them now.

A disturbance occurred in the Ramanella ward last November. The Chief Mitchell, greatly provoked by acts of aggression on the part of Hlayoane, son of Seshope, whose general conduct was commented on in last year's report, went with an armed party and burned his village. A good deal of property was destroyed, but fortunately no lives were lost. The case was tried in the Court of the Resident Commissioner, and those responsible were fined and imprisoned.

I fear this ward is in rather a deplorable state owing to what, for want of a better term, I will call the senile slackness of the principal chiefs and the consequent lawlessness of their sons, notably those of Seshope. Peete's son Mitchell, the heir to the chieftainship, is an exception, and shows promise of ability in the management of affairs, but he is still in a subordinate position, and his influence, though considerable and growing, is not yet a power outside his personal following.

A bridge has been built over the Caledon river near Ficksburg, which should prove a great boon to the public. One over the Hlotse is now urgently required, as in wet seasons this station is practically isolated.

The main roads in the district are in good order, notwithstanding the heavy rains of last summer and autumn.

The harvest has been a very good one this year, and probably a large quantity of grain will be exported. One large swarm of locusts visited the district, but did only partial damage.

A sheep-dip was established last year, and was well patronised. 4,093 sheep were dipped during the year.

There is a new hospital in course of erection, which will be completed by November.

A successful Agricultural Show was held here on July 6th, and a remarkably fine lot of young stock, especially horses, was exhibited. Among these last the progeny of the Government Arabs was very noticeable.

Relations with neighbouring officials of the Orange River Colony continue to be of a cordial nature. I would like,

however, to draw attention to a difficulty felt by the absence of any adequate machinery in that Colony for the trial and adjustment of purely native matters. If the dispute is in the nature of an ordinary civil case, the complainant is referred to a lawyer, whose initial fees probably amount to more than the amount in dispute, and if, as is more likely, it happens to be a native matrimonial case there seems to be no remedy at all.

Natives of Basutoland are closely related and inter-married with those of the Orange River Colony, and disputes concerning inheritance, dowries, the custody of children, damages for seduction, &c., &c., are constantly occurring between parties on this side and that, and though Orange River Colony subjects get a ready hearing in our Courts, Basutoland natives have in effect either to forgo their claim, or wait for a chance of retaliation, which I have known to take the form of seizure of property and breach of the peace.

I attach a report from the officer in charge at Butha Buthe, and one from the medical officer here.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	14,851	0	0
General traders' licences	505	0	0
Hawkers' licences	36	0	0
Recruiting labour licences	15	0	0
Judicial fines	253	5	0
Fees of court	9	16	0
Transfer of licences (fee)	0	5	0
Registration of marriages (fee) ...	2	15	0
Excise	12	14	3
Miscellaneous	124	15	9
Total	£15,810	11	0

Tax has been paid on 14,361 huts.
Arrear tax collected amounts to £550.

Licences.

The numbers of licences issued during the year are :—

General traders'	51
Paid hawkers'	36
Free hawkers'	17
Labour agents'	18

Passes.

Passes were issued for the following purposes :—

Visiting in the Orange River Colony	19,780
„ „ Cape Colony	176
Working in the Kimberley mines ...	291
„ on Railway construction ...	4,022
„ in the Johannesburg mines	6,473
Agricultural labour	2,271
Miscellaneous	18,469
Total	51,482

Police.

The police force in the district consists of :—

Inspector	1
Sub-inspectors	2
Sergeants	2
Corporals	3
Lance-corporal	1
1st class privates	22
2nd class privates	34
Native officer	1
European constable	1
Total	67

Gaols.

During the year 45 persons were received into gaol, and of these 32 were convicted and sentenced. There were 13 not convicted. The number in gaol on the 30th June, 1907, was 13.

Patrols.

Number of patrols	532
„ men engaged	676
Estimated distance covered ...	... 20,883 miles.
Number of arrests	104
For contravening liquor regulations ...	5
„ „ pass regulations ...	50
For other offences	49

Lost Stock.

The following table shows the result of action taken in the matter of tracing and recovering lost stock.

Description.	Traced to Basutoland.	Not traced to Basutoland.	Total Reported.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Not recovered in Basutoland.
Horses ...	8	25	33	8	25
Cattle ...	2	2	4	2	2
Sheep ...	—	143	143	—	143
Goats ...	10	134	144	10	134
Total ...	20	304	324	20	304

Of these it has been officially reported that seven horses, 62 sheep, and 112 goats were recovered in the Orange River Colony.

Cases Tried.

The following is a list of cases tried in the court:—

Assault	9
Culpable homicide	6
Theft	14
Contravening Pass regulations	35
„ trading regulations	5
„ customs regulations	3
Resisting police	3
Fraud	1
Abduction	1
Creating a disturbance	2
Contempt of court	1
Other crimes	5
Total	85

There were nine civil actions.

Prices of Stock and Produce.

The following are the average prices paid for stock and produce:—

Wheat (per muid)	12*s.* to 15*s.*
Mealies, „	6*s.* to 8*s.*
Kaffir corn „	8*s.* to 10*s.*
Forage, per 100 bundles	10*s.* to 20*s.*
Ponies	£10 to £25.
Cattle	£7 to £10.
Sheep and goats	£1.
Wool, per lb.	3*d.* to 5*d.*
Mohair, per lb.	10*d.* to 11*d.*

J. C. Macgregor,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—BUTHA BUTHE 1906-1907.

The past year has been exceptionally quiet and uneventful; there have been no fights or disturbances of any kind.

The friction between Joel and Hlasoa still continues and unfortunately does not show signs of coming to an end.

The Makhoakhoa have been quiet, and this I put down to the fact that Letsika is now working with his eldest son Thakabanna.

There was a slight increase in the Hut Tax on last year amounting to £39 10*s*.

A large swarm of locusts passed through the district, but I am pleased to say that they did very little damage to the crops.

The mealie and Kaffir corn crops were very good and food is plentiful in all parts of the district.

The Government stud horse was killed by lightning on 15th December last.

The Police Detachment at this station is in an efficient state and the various duties were satisfactorily performed.

The roads are in a fair state, but it has been most difficult to keep them in anything like decent order, owing to the heavy rains and the want of sufficient road parties.

L. GRIFFITH,
Inspector, B.M.P.

Butha Buthe,
30th June, 1907.

ANNUAL REPORT—BEREA DISTRICT 1906-1907.

Assistant Commissioner's Office.
Berea,
1st July, 1907.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the Berea District for the year ended 30th June, 1907.

I am glad to be able to report that this has been the most uneventful year since I came to the District. There has been an almost total absence of serious crime. Indeed, there was only one case—a leper in Peete's Ward murdered his wife and afterwards committed suicide.

There were, of course, some of the usual disputes as to the boundaries of the various wards, and probably one or two such cases will be brought before you during the coming year. The

line between Senekal and Sauer has, I hope, been finally settled. But the boundaries between Koali and Fako, and Koali and Senekal probably will be in dispute again.

The relations between Koali and Moeketse are still far from satisfactory. I believe the truth is that Moeketse desires to be independent of Koali; this is Koali's view, and of course, that being so, he does not make any serious effort to pull well with Moeketse.

A matter which I think may cause trouble any day is that of the cattle posts in the mountains. Masupha complains that he is being crushed out by Theko and Peete, and Leshoboro has also complained about the same subject. Knowing the great importance which the chiefs attach to their cattle posts, I consider this a serious question.

We have been visited by some very large swarms of locusts, and in many parts the crops have been quite destroyed. No "hoppers" were reported in this district.

We held our usual Agricultural Show on 5th June, and the reports of the judges on several of the exhibits were very good.

His Excellency the High Commissioner passed through part of the district during his tour in Basutoland, and I was much pleased with the way Masupha assisted in supplying horses at very short notice.

The tree nursery which I started last year will, I think, be a success, and though a large number of young trees were destroyed by a flood, we have 500 or 600 ready to plant out next season. All the walls which had been built in the donga here were swept away by the same flood.

In November I took over the main roads in the district. It has been a particularly hard season to keep roads in order, but I now have them in fair condition, and during the winter hope to make them really good. I find it much more satisfactory having the roads under my own control.

The Hut Tax has not, I am sorry to say, been paid up as well as I expected, the amount being £25 short of last year. The smaller amount of arrears will account for more than this, but still there should have been an increase—as there was in some wards.

I attach the usual returns:—

	£	s	d.
Hut tax	6,667	10	0
Licences	266	10	0
Fines	39	10	0
Fees of court	2	16	8
Miscellaneous	0	13	0
Customs	47	3	4
Total ...	£7,024	3	0

Tax was paid on 6,454 huts. Arrears were £319 10*s.*, or 4·78 per cent.

The following licences were issued during the year :—

General traders	24
Hawkers (paid)	3
Labour	27
Mill licence	1
Hawkers (free)	19

The passes issued were as follows, under various heads :—

Visiting Orange River Colony	4,389
„ Cape Colony	83
Kimberley mines	635
Railway construction	2,529
Johannesburg mines	2,101
Agriculture	1,807
Miscellaneous	703
	12,247

Police State.

Sub-inspector	1
European constable	1
Native sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ lance-corporal	1
„ 1st class privates	12
„ 2nd „ „	13
Total	30

Return of Patrols.

Number of patrols	328
„ men employed	638
„ miles covered	5,127
„ arrests (*a*)	8
„ „ (*b*)	44
„ „ (*c*)	3

The following cases were tried during the year :—

Contravening Pass laws	30
„ liquor regulations	11
Assault	1
Theft	4
Contravening trading regulations	1
Other cases	2
Civil cases	4

Gaol Return.

Number in gaol on 1st July, 1906	7
Received into gaol during year	14
Sentenced	9
Handed over to Orange River Colony ...	2
Discharged	14
Untried	2
In gaol on 30th June, 1907	5

RETURN OF LOST AND STOLEN STOCK REPORTED.

Description.	Reported.	Traced to Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	13	8	5	8	5
Cattle	Nil	—	—	—	—
Sheep	Nil	—	—	—	—

The prices of stock and produce in the district are about as follow :—

Trek oxen £8 to £11 ; slaughter oxen £9 to £12 ; cows £7 to £12 ; horses £12 to £20 ; sheep 20*s.* to 25*s.* ; goats 10*s.* to 15*s.* ; wheat 10*s.* to 13*s.* per bag ; mealies 5*s.* to 8*s.* ; Kaffir corn 8*s.* ; fine grease wool 4½*d.* to 5*d.* per lb. ; mohair 7*d.* to 9*d.*

I attach roll of general traders.

NOMINAL ROLL OF GENERAL TRADERS.

Berea District, June, 1907.

No.	Names.	Situation of Store.	Remarks.
1	Bodkin, J. M. ...	Sefiking.	
2	Bradshaw, J. ...	Mohatlane.	
3	,, ...	Motika.	
4	Crisp, O. E. ...	Teyateyaneng.	
5	Dawson, W. R. ...	Mapoteng.	
6	,, ...	,,	
7	,, ...	Makhate.	
8	,, ...	Hamoletsane.	
9	Fraser, D. and D. H.	Khamolane.	
10	,, ...	Fako.	
11	,, ...	Qhalaheng.	
12	Johnson	Marthinus.	
13	Kohler, H. ...	Tebetebeng (mill).	
14	Mahommed, E. N...	Mapoteng.	
15	Maitin Bros. ...	Berea Hills.	
16	,, ...	Hangers Drift.	
17	,, ...	Teyateyaneng.	
18	Stevens, G. L. ...	,,	
19	,, ...	,,	
20	,, ...	Koali.	
21	,, ...	Ntlama.	
22	,, ...	Cana.	
23	,, ...	Sebalabala.	
24	,, ...	Phofoolo.	
25	Yeats, J. S. ...	Senekal.	

W. BOXWELL, Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—MASERU DISTRICT.

Office of the Assistant Commissioner,
Maseru, Basutoland.

30th June, 1907.

The past year has been a most peaceful one, and no disturbances of any kind have occurred.

The rains, which started in September, continued with very little intermission until about May, and the roads have been in consequence in a deplorable condition. With the most strenuous efforts the main roads in the district have been kept open for traffic. During the coming year a greatly increased grant will be required to again get them into passable order. The bridge across the Little Caledon River, referred to in previous annual reports, has been commenced, and work on it, under the supervision and control of Mr. Gibson, the Government Engineer, is proceeding apace.

The railway continues to be a source of great convenience, and judging from the amount of activity at the station the returns should be financially satisfactory.

The hospital at Maseru is very greatly appreciated and is almost always continuously without an empty bed, the number of patients seeking admission being greatly in excess of the available accommodation. The general health of the district has been most satisfactory, no reports of any endemic disease having been received.

The water supply for the village has proved, owing to the abnormal rainfall, to have been sufficient for domestic purposes. When the new reservoir, the holding capacity of which is calculated to be 300,000 gallons, is completed, and further available water brought in, the water difficulty should be settled.

A number of trees have been planted out during the year, but some of the new plantations have not succeeded as well as they ought. Young trees are issued to natives free of charge.

Religious instruction and educational work continue to be carried on by missionaries of the Paris Evangelical Society, and the English and Roman Catholic Churches. The Government-aided schools in the district have been visited and reported on by Mr. Austen Williams, who was temporarily engaged for the work.

There has been, I regret to say, more disease than usual amongst stock. Several cases of anthrax amongst cattle and of glanders amongst horses have been reported. In the case of

the latter where owners have been induced to destroy the infected animals, compensation has been awarded, disinfectants have been issued free of charge, and isolation of suspected animals has been insisted upon. Every endeavour has been made to carry out the recommendations of the Veterinary Officer.

The sheep dip at Qeme is much used by natives in the neighbourhood, and during the past year upwards of 5,000 sheep and goats have been dipped. A number of good rams were imported by the Government, 10 of which were given to me to issue out to responsible natives. This I did after satisfying myself that they had cleared their respective wards of *zanthium spinosum*.

During the past spring locusts hatched out in the southern portion of the district, and prompt measures were taken for their destruction. Gangs of men were set to work destroying them with, in the early stages, soap spray, and later with the arsenical solution recommended by the locust bureau. The result proved most satisfactory, and a great number of swarms were destroyed. Later on, in the autumn, the district was visited by flying locusts, which did considerable havoc to the younger crops and to pasture generally. These swarms hovered around, and eventually deposited eggs over the greater portion of the district outside the mountain belt. These eggs will in turn have to be dealt with in the coming spring, when they are due to hatch out. The localities in which these eggs have been deposited have been marked, and the entire area covered is very extensive.

An Agricultural Show was held in Maseru on the 24th May last and was a great improvement on the one held the previous year. The exhibits were in many cases more numerous and the quality in some excellent.

Trade during the year has been fair. The wheat crop has again been a failure. Wool and mohair have increased in both quantity and quality, and the mealie and kaffircorn crops, though not yet reaped, bid fair to be good, despite the damage done to them by locusts.

The Government Industrial School has made considerable progress during the year, the number of pupils now being about sixty. The trades taught include carpentering, stone-cutting, blacksmith's work, shoeing of horses, the running of an oil engine for supplying the railway station with water, work in the fitter's workshop, and general supervision of the village water supply, pipes, and reservoir. Recently a corn mill has been started, driven by a steam engine, and this also is worked by the pupils under supervision.

The laundry under the auspices of the English Mission is still doing good work.

I attach the usual annual returns.

Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	11,546	0	0
Licences	500	10	0
Fines	164	17	6
Customs	41	1	11
Fees of court	6	15	0
Miscellaneous	50	15	6
Total	£12,309	19	11

Tax was paid on 11,282 huts, and arrear tax amounting to £442 was collected.

Licences.

The number of licences issued is as under :—

General traders'	31
Hawkers' (paid)	98
„ (unpaid)	54
Labour agents'	185

Passes.

The following is the return of passes issued :—

Visiting in the O.R.C.	8,835
Working—O.R.C. coal and diamond mines	1,253
Visiting Cape Colony	271
Kimberley diamond mines	833
Johannesburg Municipality	483
Transvaal gold and diamond mines ...	7,462
Agricultural work	273
Railway construction	62
Miscellaneous work	2,270
Total	21,742

Police.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-inspector	1
Native officer	1
European constables	3
Native „	2
„ sergeants	2
„ corporals	2
„ lance-corporal	1
„ privates	54

Patrols.

Number of patrols	446
„ men employed	461
Estimated distance travelled (miles) ...	9,137

And the following arrests have been made :—

Contravening liquor laws	3
„ pass „	10
Other offences	7

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol ...	... 145
„ „ discharged unconvicted	... 57
„ „ convicted and sentenced	... 73
„ „ in gaol 30th June, 1907	... 28
„ „ transferred	.. 15
Floggings inflicted	... 1

Cases Tried.

The following cases have been tried during the year : —

Common assault	6
Assault with intent	2
Assault with intent to commit rape ...	1
Extortion	2
Escaping from custody	1
Fraud	14
Police Offences Act	5
Introducing Arms	1
Contravening liquor regulations	3
„ trading „	4
„ pass „	10
„ Prisons Act	1
Pretended witchcraft	2
Theft	14
Civil cases	13

LOST STOCK.

Description.	Reported Lost.	Traced into Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	26	10	16	10	16
Mules	2	—	2	—	2
Cattle	7	—	7	—	7
Sheep	5	—	5	—	5

Prices of Stock and Produce.

The following are current prices for stock and produce :—

Slaughter cattle	£10 each.
Cows	£8 to £10 each.
Horses	£15 to £25 „
Sheep	15*s.* to 25*s.* „
Goats	10*s.* to 12*s.* 6*d.* each.
Mealies	8*s.* 6*d.* to 9*s.* 6*d.* per bag.
Kaffir corn	10*s.* per bag,
Wool	4½*d.* to 6*d.* per lb.
Mohair	9*d.* per lb.

Chas. E. Boyes,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE MAFETENG DISTRICT, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30th June, 1907.

General.

Nothing of much political importance has occurred in Mafeteng district during the past year. The land dispute between the Chiefs Seiso and Mahapela, referred to in my last annual report, still continues to cause friction, and the action of the higher chiefs, to which reference was made in that report as being calculated to prevent Mahapela from deriving any advantage from the decision then recently given, has led to a regrettable series of petty disputes tending to break up the authority of Mahapela over the clan of the Ba-Mohale. The present position is that the ground taken from Seiso has not reverted to Mahapela, nor has he been permitted to locate his followers thereon, but it has been handed over to a sub-chief, Napo, who although formerly under Mahapela, now claims to be directly under the Paramount Chief, and this claim on his part is rather encouraged than otherwise.

Such disputes, besides having an unsettling effect on the parties concerned, are found to seriously impede the collection of Hut Tax in the district.

A proper survey of the Mafeteng Camp and Government Reserve is much needed. A considerable number of building sites appear to have been granted in former years without any record having been kept. Many of these sites were built upon by natives, who subsequently sold them either to other natives or

to Europeans, and there appears to be no record of these transfers. In the absence of any properly drawn up plan of the Camp, it is difficult to revise the system or to trace the history of the various grants.

Public Works.

The condition of the main roads, after a season of unusual rain-fall extending over eight months, is far from satisfactory. Repairs bave, however, been constantly carried on, and traffic has not been suspended, except at times by flooded rivers. As there are upwards of 180 miles of waggon roads in the district the expense of maintenance has been considerable.

The camp water-works continue to give a satisfactory supply of water. There is also a sufficient supply conserved in dams for the present needs of livestock.

New public offices are in process of building, and should be completed in a few months.

Agriculture.

The drought which has prevailed during the four previous years, broke up at the end of September, 1906, and copious rains have since fallen lasting well into the present winter. The country is now well saturated and there is every prospect of a good wheat season, should the people take advantage of it. Some of them are, however, afraid to plough on account of the locusts, which may be expected to re-visit the country in the coming spring. There was a great invasion of locusts from the Orange River Colony during the months of November and December, 1906. Efforts were made to check them, with the result that, although the crops near the border suffered severely, the insects were prevented from penetrating any great distance into the district until their wings were developed, after which little could be done against them. They are reported to be breeding in various places near the border, and the work of locust destruction will probably have to be renewed in the spring and early summer. Detailed reports of the work done during the past season have already been furnished.

It is difficult to impress the Basuto with the importance of combined action in dealing either with locusts, or with the various weeds which are spreading through the country. As they occasionally collect a few sacks of locusts and use them for food, they are disposed to look on any general scheme for locust destruction with indifference, if not with actual disfavour, as interfering with one of their minor sources of food supply.

They were induced by the reward offered by Government of 2*s*. per sack, to collect locusts and bring them to the various destruction camps, but nothing would induce them, except in a few isolated cases, to take any steps for locust destruction

without payment. Similarly it is almost impossible to get them to destroy weeds outside the limits of their own gardens, and as they generally plough far more ground than they can keep in order, noxious weeds continue to spread through the country with very little check. Burrweed, which is the curse of the woolbuyer, is allowed to grow everywhere, except along the main roads, where the Government road parties have orders to destroy it. This state of things is naturally viewed with grave concern by the farmers of the Orange River Colony, as the sluits and water courses which drain into that territory from Basutoland, are full of burrweed, the seeds of which are carried on to the farms with every freshet.

An attempt has recently been made by the anti-progressive party among the natives, to raise an outcry against the efforts of the Government to improve the quality of the Basuto ponies by the introduction of better blood. This is only one of a series of frivolous complaints which have recently emanated from the same source against the Government. The theory set up in support of their contention is that the Basuto possess a native breed of ponies, which is more sure-footed and enduring than other breeds, and that the crossing with better bred animals is calculated to eliminate these qualities. The absurdity of this theory is shown by the following facts.

Firstly, the Basuto have no native breed of ponies, as 60 or 70 years ago they possessed no horses whatever. All the ponies in the territory at the present time, with the exception of actual importations, have been bred from stock originally brought in from the various surrounding colonies.

The descendants of these importations are generally of smaller size than the original stock, owing to their having to pick up a living in the mountains, where the climate in winter is decidedly rigorous. They are admittedly sure-footed, but not more so than well-bred horses brought up in similar situations; and these better-bred animals are found, owing to their being able to travel faster without distress, to be capable of beating the ordinary pony in endurance on his own ground, to say nothing of their being more generally useful both for saddle and draught purposes, and almost invariably realising better prices when sold to Europeans. As the Basuto usually castrate their best colts, leaving the inferior ones (which are too under-sized or misshapen to make useful saddle horses) to spoil the breed, the necessity for Government intervention to prevent the deterioration of a really useful class of animal, by means of fresh importations of suitable stallions, is sufficiently obvious.

Relations with Bordering States.

Our relations with the Orange River Colony are generally of a cordial nature. There are frequently recurring cases of Basuto women absconding from their husbands and taking

refuge in the Colony; and delay is sometimes experienced in dealing with these matters.

The question of the liability of Basutoland natives to pay poll-tax in the Orange River Colony, has also led to some correspondence, the usual course pursued being the somewhat cumbersome one of making the native pay poll-tax at the local magistracy in the Orange River Colony after which he has to apply through the Basutoland Government for the refund of the amount from the Government at Bloemfontein.

Liquor smuggling is still carried on to a considerable extent, and there have been several recent convictions for this offence.

The Orange River Colony officials have always rendered every assistance in their power in dealing with any matters which it has been necessary to refer to them.

Education.

A report on the Government-aided schools in this district was submitted in November, 1906. It is a discouraging feature of the native problem, that the better-educated natives, who owe their education in a great measure to the money granted by Government for that purpose, are among the most bitter opponents of the Government in this territory. In view of what is happening in India at the present time, this circumstance is worthy of attention.

Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	10,385	0	0
Licences	326	0	0
Fines	226	12	9
Customs	42	10	3
Fees	12	19	2
Miscellaneous	358	0	6
	£11,351	2	8

Number of huts upon which tax was paid, 10,159. Amount of arrear tax paid was £226.

Prices of Stock and Produce.

Wheat, per bag	15*s.*
Mealies „	7*s.* 6*d.*
Kaffir corn „	8*s.*
Barley „	10*s.*
Oats „	8*s.*
Oat hay, per 100 bundles	20*s.* to 25*s.*
Slaughter oxen	£9.
Cows	£6.

Basuto ponies	£18.
Sheep (breeding)	15*s.*
„ (slaughter)	20*s.*
Goats	10*s.*
Wool, per lb.	6*d.*
Mohair „	10*d.*
Hides „	6*d.*
Sheepskins, per lb.	5*d.*

Passes Issued.

Visiting Orange River Colony	7,574
„ Cape Colony	676
Domestic service, Orange River Colony	4,140
„ „ Cape Colony	464
Kimberley mines	448
Jagersfontein „	842
Koffyfontein „	161
Johannesburg „	1,086
Railway construction	125
Indwe coal	2
Agricultural labour	103
Miscellaneous work	3,367
Viljoen's Drift coal	3
Total	18,991

Police Strength.

Inspector	1
Native officer	1
„ constables	2
„ sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ privates	37

Patrols.

Number of patrols	590
„ men employed	420
„ miles patrolled	15,784
„ arrests for contravening liquor regulations	13
„ arrests for contravening pass regulations	7
„ arrests for other offences ...	23

Licences Issued.

General traders'	25
Hawkers' (paid)	49
„ (free)	64
Labour licences	54

Civil Cases tried	2

Criminal Cases.

Culpable homicide	1
Concealment of birth	3
Forgery	2
Theft	9
Contravening liquor regulations	8
Miscellaneous crimes	21

Lost Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Recovered in Orange River Colony.	Not recovered.
Horses ...	35	—	35	—	21	14
Cattle ...	15	1	14	1	8	5
Sheep ...	255	—	255	—	21	232

Number of sheep dipped in the three Government dips 14,128.

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol... ...	79
„ „ discharged unconvicted ...	12
„ „ convicted and sentenced ...	67
„ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1907	17

No floggings were inflicted during the year.

S. Barrett,

Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—MOHALES HOEK DISTRICT, 1906-7.

During the past twelve months the principal event of interest was the visit of His Excellency the High Commissioner, who made a short stay here last April on his way to the Maluti for a shooting trip. A Pitso was held before Lord Selborne, who was accompanied by the Resident Commissioner. This was well attended, and several affairs of interest to the nation generally were discussed. His Excellency was rather unfortunate in the weather, which was not particularly propitious for mountain travelling.

Politically there have been very few occurrences of any moment in the district.

A few slight disturbances have taken place, but these were of a trivial character.

The tendency of the Baphuti to acknowledge Griffith's supremacy, to which I alluded in my last year's report, has received no check, and several more of the recalcitrant headmen have now been liberated for some months and have, so far as I am aware, given no further trouble.

In the Bataung ward Mokhele, who is now of advanced age, has, with the approval of the Paramount Chief, nominated his grandson Mokhelinyane as his heir. Mokhelinyane has already shown signs of a disposition to act wisely and sensibly, and I regard the prospect of his future chieftainship without apprehension.

Among the Bamohale, Goliath, Malebanye's son, at the beginning of the year appeared likely to upset the balance of affairs, but has, I trust, been influenced by his elders to settle down, and with additional experience should prove more useful and less disturbing.

The revenue shows an increase of over £900, which is to a great extent attributable to the hut tax being now levied on widows and bachelors.

A new gaol has been built at this station, and the much needed scheme for a new water supply is being proceeded with, and will soon be in working order.

Much damage was done to the roads owing to the heavy rainfall, but thanks to the increased sum allotted for road maintenance, they are fairly passable, and if a substantial addition can be made to the existing plant, the results next year should be of a more satisfactory and permanent nature.

A bridge over the Cornet Spruit would be a great boon. Great inconvenience and loss were experienced both by the European and native population owing to this river having been impassable during a great part of the summer and autumn.

The Agricultural Show suffered owing to this, as the Bataung, who have in the past taken a comparatively keen interest in it, were debarred by the river from exhibiting their stock or produce.

I regret that very few foals from the Government stallion have been reported, and hope that next season's results may be more satisfactory.

The wheat crop was a failure owing to the prolonged drought experienced in the early part of the year. This was followed by a remarkably wet summer and autumn, and the mealie and kaffir corn crops would have been immense had it not been for the late rains which rendered reaping a matter of great difficulty. Locusts also did some damage, although we were more fortunate than the neighbouring districts.

I fear, however, that next season there will be a great number of voetgangers to contend with, as reports have been brought in of quantities of locusts laying in the district. This is said to be preventing the natives from sowing wheat to any extent. This is greatly to be regretted, as a good wheat season would tend to relieve the commercial depression which exists, and on which the improvement in mealie and kaffir corn crops has little or no effect.

The police of this detachment continue to be efficient, and have made several captures of brandy runners, but owing to the facilities enjoyed by native voters in the Cape Colony, and the lower class of Dutch in the Orange River Colony for obtaining liquor, and to the difficulties they meet with in Basutoland, where almost evey man acts as a scout for the smugglers, the task of putting anything like a check on this traffic is well-nigh a hopeless one.

The number of lost stock reported from neighbouring territories has been inconsiderable, and serious crime has not been very prevalent in the district.

The border fence between the Orange River Colony and Basutoland has been completed, but cannot be considered a thoroughly effective obstacle to small stock straying over the border on account of the numerous stretches of drystone wall which have been allowed to remain.

A few headmen have made efforts towards eradicating burr-weed in their wards, but only half-heartedly, and it is to be hoped that the Government rams, which have been issued to those who show interest in this work, may prove a more effectual inducement in the future.

The number of passes issued for work at the mines is about the same as last year, and would probably have shown an increase had it not been that De Beers Company, which is the most popular with natives in this district, stopped recruiting during the past few months.

I append the usual annual returns :—

Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	11,040	0	0
Licences	203	10	0
Fines	189	6	6
Fees of court	8	6	0
Miscellaneous	105	1	10
Customs	70	6	10
Total ...	£11,616	11	2

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 10,970.
Amount of arrear tax paid was £109.

Licences.

General traders' licences	18
Hawkers' (paid)	16
„ (free)	41
Labour agents	13

Passes.

Johannesburg mines	294
Kimberley „	641
Jagersfontein „	404
Indwe „	3
Orange River Colony mines	519
Visiting Cape Colony	1,009
„ Orange River Colony ...	1,102
Farm and domestic work	2,151
Miscellaneous	2,063
Total	8,187

Police.

Sub-inspector	1
European constable	1
Native officer	1
„ sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ lance-corporals	2
„ privates	22
„ Special police	4
Total	33

Patrols.

Number of patrols		145
„ men employed		253
„ miles patrolled		10,374
„ arrests for contravening pass laws.		30
„ arrests for contravening liquor laws.		15
„ arrests for other offences.		14

Civil and Criminal Cases.

Number of cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Culpable homicide	1
Concealment of birth	1
Assault with intent	1
Theft	9
Liquor running	10
Contravening pass regulations ...	30
Attempting to obtain passes fraudulently.	12
Other minor offences	8
Civil actions	1

No floggings were inflicted.

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	68
„ „ „ sentenced	57
„ „ „ discharged unconvicted ...	5
„ „ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1907	21

LOST STOCK.

Reported.	Description.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
11	Horses... ...	2	9	4	7
88	Sheep	—	88	13	75

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Horses	£15 to £25
Cattle	£6 to £11
Sheep	10*s.* to £1
Mealies (per bag)	6*s.* to 12*s.*
Kaffir corn „	10*s.* to 15*s.*
Wheat „	No local supply.

There has been no outbreak of infectious disease amongst stock in the district during the twelve months under report.

Mohales Hoek,
30th June, 1907.

J. W. BOWKER,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—QUTHING DISTRICT, 1906-7

In Mr. Mansel's Annual Report of last year on the district, he intimated that, owing to the fact that a number of important land settlements made here in 1904 by the late Paramount Chief Lerothodi were being disregarded by the different parties, considerable confusion existed in the district In September last the Resident Commissioner and three influential representatives of the Paramount Chief came here to enquire into these and other matters of discord which had subsequently cropped up. Pitsos lasting over ten days were held, and most satisfactory settlements arrived at. The terms of these settlements are being strictly enforced, and it may safely be said that, in a political sense, the district is in a tranquil state.

In consequence of the heavy rainfall of 43·92 inches during the year under review, considerable damage has been done to all district roads; but, with an increased grant from Government funds, repairs of a permanent nature are now being undertaken.

The wheat crop this year, though not an entire success, has shown an improvement on the harvesting results of a few previous seasons. Oats, maize, and Kaffir corn have all been successfully grown, and good crops have recently been reaped.

At the Agricultural Show held here in May last, the exhibits of animals and produce were of good class and quality; the exhibits, however, were not numerous as the weather on the occasion was wet and very cold.

A few dense swarms of locusts visited the ditsrict in May and June—fortunately too late to do any serious damage. It is expected, however, that the egg deposits will cause numerous "voetgangers" to be hatched out in the early spring, and the expense of a locust campaign may be entailed.

Fourteen Government rams of a suitable breed have been received from Maseru for issue to enterprising sheep farmers in the district. Local chiefs have been advised that the issue will only be made to those who have shown successful efforts in assisting to destroy burrweed.

The Arab stud horse "Viceroy" standing at this station, appears to be much appreciated by the Quthing natives, and during the season ended March, 1907, 35 mares were served.

Certain additional public works are shortly to be undertaken in this camp, notably the erection of a new gaol. With improved accommodation for prisoners, it is hoped to check the spread of enteric fever, which has recently occurred here to a considerable degree—due, possibly, to the crowded and unhealthy state in which convicts have previously been housed.

The following are the usual Annual Returns:—

Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	6,384	10	0
Licences	172	10	0
Fines	123	13	6
Ferry tolls	186	2	0
Fees of court or office	3	16	0
Miscellaneous	111	17	2
Customs	22	6	6
Total	£7,004	15	2

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 6,348.
Amount of arrear tax paid, £47 10*s*.

Licences.

General traders' licences	14
Hawkers' licences (paid)	31
„ „ (free)	18
Labour agent's licence	1

Lost or Stolen Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	9	6	3	6	3

Passes Issued.

Visitors to Cape Colony...	3,365
„ Orange River Colony	205
Selling produce in Cape Colony	419
Riding transport in Cape Colony	465
Working in Cape Colony	1,128
„ Orange River Colony	145
„ Johannesburg	51
„ Kimberley	23
„ Jagersfontein	88
„ Indwe	10
Total	5,899

Police.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is as follows :—

Sub-inspector	1
Native sergeant...	1
„ corporal...	1
„ lance-corporal	1
„ privates...	22
	26

Patrols.

Number of patrols	... ...	165
„ men employed	... ...	240
„ miles travelled	... ...	5,321
„ arrests for contravening pass regulations	... ...	3
„ arrests for contravening liquor regulations	... ...	8
„ arrests for other offences	... ...	13

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners	received into gaol	 50
„ „	convicted and sentenced	... 47
„ „	discharged unconvicted	... 3
„ „	in gaol on 30th June, 1907	... 11

Cases Tried.

Theft	3
Contravening Pass regulations	15
Contravening trading regulations	14
Resisting arrest	7
Trespass	1
Contravening Masters and Servants Act ...	3
Forgery	1
Contempt of Court	1

No floggings were inflicted during the year.

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Horses	£10 to £15.
Oxen	£7 to £8.
Cows	£5 to £6.
Sheep	hamels 22*s.* 6*d.*, ewes 12*s.* to 15*s.*
Goats (Boer)	12*s.* to 15*s.*
Wool	6*d.* per lb.
Mohair	10*d.* „
Wheat...	12*s.* per bag.
Mealies	8*s.* „
Kaffir corn	10*s.* „

F. JENNER,
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Qnthing, Basutoland,
30th June, 1907.

ANNUAL REPORT—QACHA'S NEK DISTRICT, 1906–7.

The dispute mentioned in my last report between chiefs Makhoala and Ntaote nearly reached a climax some months ago as Chief Jonathan Molapo of Leribe is claiming the place where Ntaote resides. I am afraid no settlement can be made at present.

Owing to the prevalence of East Coast fever in Natal it was considered necessary to protect the country, and native guards were engaged to watch the principal passes. So far this work has been effectually performed, and no attempts have been made to smuggle cattle into the district. Some of the police have been constantly employed on the same duty.

Great hardship has been caused in this district by the Cape Proclamation, No. 74, dated 6th February, 1907, prohibiting the introduction of cattle into East Griqualand unless used solely for transport purposes, immediate slaughter, or those that have recently been inoculated against lung-sickness. As the disease does not exist in the country it is absurd to inoculate, and the interchange of cattle amongst natives with the neighbouring territory is thereby prevented.

Locusts made their appearance in Sekake's ward in May and June; large numbers died from the severe weather and very little damage was done.

The postal service between this station and Quthing was discontinued as delays were constantly taking place.

Within the last few months an agreement has been made with a medical practitioner residing near the border in Matatiole district to visit this camp twice a month and whenever urgently needed.

A rough wagon road has been constructed by the firm who opened a store at Sehapa's village from Mpite's, a distance of about 15 miles through rather bad country. I hope in time to come it will be extended by Government along the Orange River to Quthing so as to connect this district with other parts of Basutoland. The projected Ongeluk's Nek route, abandoned years ago, would undoubtedly be the best if all the difficulties could be surmounted.

A few Rambouillet rams were purchased and distributed amongst chiefs and people; a repetition of this on a larger scale would greatly increase the export of wool in a few years.

Crops, particularly wheat, have done remarkably well in the northern wards, but here they have been almost a failure.

I attach the usual annual returns.

Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	3,996	0	0
Licences	217	0	0
Fines	87	5	0
Fees	2	0	0
Miscellaneous	6	16	0
Customs	17	16	0
Total ...	£4,326	17	2

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 3,937.
Amount of arrear tax paid was £113.

Licences.

General traders'	5
Paid hawkers'	172

Passes.

Visiting in the Orange River Colony	151
„ „ Cape Colony ...	3,267
„ Natal	216
Kimberley mines	55
Johannesburg mines	141
Indwe coal mines	13
Railway construction...	10
Agricultural work	888
Miscellaneous work	4,596
	9,337

Deposit and Remittance Agency.

Remittances received through the Deposit and Remittance Agency, Johannesburg.—Nil.

Police State.

Sub-Inspector	1
Native sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ privates	21

Patrols.

Number of patrols	178
„ men employed	226
„ miles patrolled...	7,922

Number of Arrests.

Contravening pass laws	6
„ liquor regulations ...	5
„ other regulations	8

Cases Tried.

Theft	13
Pass regulations	12
Culpable homicide	2
Section 7 liquor regulations	5
Customs regulations	3
Trading do.	2
Other offences	20
Civil cases	1

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	52
„ „ sentenced	46
„ „ discharged unconvicted ...	4
„ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1907 ...	8

No floggings were inflicted.

RETURN OF LOST STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	5	5	—	5	—
Sheep	36	—	36	—	36

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Cattle	£5 to £14.
Horses	£10 to £25 (scarce).
Sheep	10*s.* to 20*s.*
Goats	10*s.* to 20*s.*
Wheat	15*s.* per bag.
Mealies	8*s.* to 10*s.* per bag.
Kaffir corn	10*s.* per bag.
Wool	5*d.* to 6½*d.* per lb.
Mohair	10*d.* to 11*d.* „

E. D'U. BLYTH,
Assistant Commissioner.

Qacha's Nek,
30th June, 1907.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER, 1906–1907.

During the year under review the people have shown an increasing inclination to utilise the Government hospitals and dispensaries. There is an increase over last year of 2,500 first attendances and 87 in-patients.

There were no epidemics of any importance during the year, which was an unusually healthy one. This makes the increased attendances the more satisfactory.

I am glad to be able to report that with the exception of a small outbreak at a village in the Quthing district the territory has been quite free from small-pox.

Table showing attendances during the year.

District.	First attendances.	Subsequent attendances.	In-patients.	Vaccinations.
Leribe	4,810	760	146	58
Maseru	8,164	1,112	441	—
Mafeteng	6,463	1,186	80	2,504
Mohales Hoek	2,190	326	70	4,541
Total	21,627	3,384	737	7,103

References to an increase of leprosy are made in two Medical Officers' Reports. Efforts to ascertain the real extent to which the disease prevails have been made. On three occasions every leper who could be traced was examined and the case recorded. The first leprosy investigation was viewed with suspicion by the natives and doubtless many cases were concealed. The second count made in 1902 was more successful, and I think most of the cases were under observation. In 1906 a third investigation was made and a report thereon is in course of preparation. The numbers show an increase over those observed in 1900, but the increase, after making allowance for cases which probably existed but were not observed on that occasion, is not sufficient to lead one to regard the disease as a serious menace. The natives now fully realise its contagious nature and voluntarily segregate their lepers. The experiment of forming a leper colony, which is being tried by the Chief Jonathan in the Leribe district, deserves encouragement. This method of dealing with leprosy was advocated by the writer in 1894, but the difficulty of finding sufficient land has always been a difficulty, and will remain so until the initiative is taken by the Chiefs. It must not be forgotten that unless isolation of a leper colony is strictly enforced the experiment will fail. If, however, it proves successful it may be possible in future to induce other leading Chiefs to follow

Jonathan's example, and to place the leper colonies under the supervision of the Medical Authorities.

Hospital Accommodation.—This is still a pressing question. In my last annual report I drew attention to the matter and I would again earnestly represent the desirability of enlarging the Maseru hospital. It is unnecessary to repeat the facts adduced in my last report as the same conditions still obtain, except that the need is more urgent.

Additions to the Staff.—In 1906 I pointed out that we were running the medical work on too small a margin. The experience of the past year has served to confirm this view. A whole-time Assistant Medical Officer should be appointed on the lines sketched in my last annual report, and as the present nurses' quarters would be required for the Resident Medical Officer, it would be necessary to provide the increased hospital accommodation immediately.

Water supply.—At most stations I gather from reports this is now in a satisfactory state. At Maseru, however, it is still inadequate. The average daily amount available is about 10,000 gallons, while the population of the camp comprises approximately 1,500 natives and 250 Europeans. There are also two public drinking troughs for horses and cattle, two industrial schools, the hospital, gaol, and veterinary department to be supplied. It will, therefore, be seen at a glance how inadequate the present supply is.

Sanitation and public health.—In November, 1906, I represented this Government at the first meeting of the principal health officers of the various South African Colonies and Protectorates. The report of this conference is already in the hands of the Government. Under existing conditions in Basutoland, it is not possible to give effect to the recommendations which were unanimously adopted by the conference. I consider, therefore, that it is worthy of consideration as to whether the time has not now arrived when the Basutoland Administration should have a public health department. This report is not the place to discuss details of such a scheme, but I am convinced that the well-being of the people would be furthered by its adoption. Pending the organisation of a public health department, I agree with the medical officer, Mohales Hoek, in thinking that something might be done to make the Government reserves an object lesson in sanitary efficiency. I have lectured for the last two years on public health and sanitation to the native teachers at their vacation course. Unless the principles taught in these lectures are exemplified in practice, and the practice enforced on the Government reserves, we cannot look for much improvement in the habits of the people, or the condition of their own villages.

EDW. C. LONG,

Principal Medical Officer.

LERIBE MEDICAL REPORT, 1906–7.

The following table shows the attendances at the Dispensary, and the number of hospital patients during the year ending 30th June, 1907 :—

Out-patients—	First attendances ...	4,810
„	Subsequent attendances ...	760
In-patients	... ...	146
	Total	5,716

The figures indicate a considerable increase over those of last year, and it is gratifying to note that the Basuto are appreciating more and more every year the work of the Dispensary and Hospital.

The year has been an average one, and there is not much of importance to record. There was a severe epidemic of measles during the summer months, and, at the time of writing, whooping cough is prevalent. The year has been the wettest on record, 48·34 inches having fallen. Summer diarrhœa was more severe than usual, especially during the months of January and February.

There are 107 persons on the Leper Register. Chief Jonathan has started a small agricultural colony for a few of these unfortunate people, and it is hoped before long that he will be able to set aside sufficient ground to support all the lepers in the district. When this is done it will be possible to grapple with the disease, and to relieve the sufferings of those who are afflicted.

The new Hospital and Dispensary are nearing completion, and it is hoped that work will be begun in them on 1st November.

The health of the police detachments and the prisoners has been good during the year.

Fifty eight vaccinations were performed. Emigrants are not vaccinated now when leaving the country.

N. M. MACFARLANE,
Medical Officer.

ANNUAL MEDICAL REPORT—MAFETENG DISTRICT, 1906–7.

During the past year 7,649 patients were treated at the dispensary. Of these 6,463 attended for the first time, showing an increase of 936, and the subsequent attendances were 102 in excess of last year. There has been no very serious outbreak of any infectious disease in the district, save during the last three months. Whooping cough has been rather prevalent, and during the summer many cases of gastro-enteritis were seen. In the months of January and February there were six cases of enteric fever in the camp, three Europeans and 13 natives being attacked. The former all recovered, while two of the latter succumbed, and with this exception the health of the camp has been very good. One white infant died of gastro-enteritis, and this was the only case of death amongst Europeans.

80 patients were operated on in the hospital, and 34 were medically treated. Of the latter three died, the cause of death being enteric fever, dysentry, and gastro-enteritis.

There was an inspection of lepers during the months of October and November, and these cases show a large increase.

The gaol has a good health record, no case of serious illness having occurred, and the building is kept clean and sanitary.

The number of vaccinations at the dispensary has been 4,541.

With an attendance of 7,649 patients and an increase of 1,038 on last year, I should like to call your attention to the advisability and necessity of a small hospital with an efficient nursing staff.

H. R. F. NATTLE,
Medical Officer.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT, MOHALES HOEK, 1906–7.

The attendances under different headings as compared with those of the previous year are shown in the following table :—

Attendances.	1905–6.	1906–7.	Increase.	Decrease.
Out-patients—				
(*a*) First attendances	2,109	2,190	81	—
(*b*) Subsequent attendances	339	326	—	13
In-patients	46	70	24	—
Paid vaccinations ...	2,405	2,504	99	—
Totals	4,899	5,090	204	13

The treatment of a larger number of in-patients was possible on account of a marquee being placed at my disposal during the past year.

There were 60 surgical and 10 medical cases admitted, the latter being all serious cases.

Of the surgical cases 47 were cured, two improved, three not improved, one refused operative treatment, and seven remain under treatment.

Of the medical cases five were cured, one improved, one not improved, two died, and one still remains under treatment.

Chloroform was administered 45 times without any mishap.

The necessity for sufficient and proper hospital accommodation with its accompaniments is the chief want of this station, and of South Basutoland.

The question has already been referred to in my annual reports of 1904–5 and 1905–6, and I submitted a further memorandum to the Resident Commissioner in April of this year, so will not refer further to the matter here.

The health of the district has been undisturbed by any severe outbreak of disease during the past year with the exception of small isolated occurrences of enteric fever which took place soon after the first spring rains fell.

The cases were mostly mild, however, and in this camp children only were attacked.

The health of the police, their families, and the prisoners has been good.

The gaol accommodation is now ample, and sanitary arrangements all that can be desired.

The new water supply will soon be completed, and promises to be sufficient for our needs for some time to come.

As the population increases in our camps the question of the disposal of night soil and rubbish must receive attention if we are to be saved from some fearful epidemic at some future time. It is a difficult question to deal with as met with in a native community, but a beginning could be made amongst the purely Government employees of such. As an example to the village, I should like to see the Government lay out a central police camp, with a uniform type of cottage and small garden attached to each, with the necessary sanitary arrangements for each family. Being done at Government expense, such a scheme could be controlled, and inspections duly made, and penalties exacted for non-compliance with regulations laid down. In time the more educated natives in the camps would follow suit, and later compulsory sanitary regulations could be extended to the whole camp.

W. R. NATTLE,
Medical Officer.

ANNUAL REPORT—GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, MASERU, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1907.

During the past year considerable progress has been made with the school buildings. The native teachers' cottages have been completed, and are now occupied by the two native teachers on the staff. The main school building has been finished, and has been in occupation since January. The completion of this building has made a great deal of difference in the working of the school. The "Selborne Hall"—the school room—is used daily for the night school, and enables the teacher to do his work in comfort. The dormitories in the main school building are large, light, and well ventilated, and will be of the greatest benefit in keeping the pupils in good health. In accordance with the instructions of the Principal Medical Officer, the floors of the dormitories are flagged. This is a great improvement to a boarded or earth floor, as the room can be flushed out with water and disinfectant every week, and thus kept very clean. The waggon makers' shop has been finished and is now in use. The blacksmiths' shop is nearly completed, and will be in use in August next.

In January a special grant was authorised by His Excellency the High Commissioner for the erection of an engineers' shop, and the purchase of an engine and plant to be run by steam. The shop has been built, and is now in use. We have purchased and erected a 7 b.h.p. boiler and high-speed vertical engine, a screw-cutting lathe, and an Inkoos mill. The above are all in working order, and the mill is proving of great use to the natives in the district. The pupils have erected the whole of this plant under the direction of the instructor in this department.

We have now, in the Engineers' department, oil and steam engines; and pupils who pass through their course in this department should have no difficulty in obtaining lucrative work in the adjoining territories. To complete the school buildings as allowed for in the first estimate and plan, we have to erect two cottages for European teachers and the main store. These will be put in hand and finished in the coming year.

The health of the pupils throughout the year has been good. I feel sure that, with the excellent dormitories we have, we shall be able to avoid chest complaints, which natives are so liable to contract at schools.

At the end of June, 1906, we had on the roll 29 pupils. This number continued till December, 1906. In January, 1907, new pupils were accepted, and we have now on the books 56 pupils, distributed as follows:—

Carpenters...	12
Blacksmiths	10
Engineers	8
Waggon Makers	9
Builders	17

In January, 1908, I propose to admit more pupils to bring the number up to 80, which will be as many as we have accommodation for, and as many as we shall be able to find work for.

During the year the pupils have been employed on various works for the school, for the Government, and for the European and native inhabitants of Maseru.

The value of work done in each department during the year is :—

	£	s.	d.
Building Department	1,503	19	5
Blacksmiths' Department ...	350	14	6
Carpenters' Department... ...	1,574	14	0
Waggon Makers' Department ...	388	17	10
Engineers' Department	687	8	8
Total	£4,605	14	5

The school buildings and the carpenters' shop were again used, during the first three weeks in January, for the native teachers' vacation course; and the school instructor in carpentry conducted the classes in woodwork.

There has been one change in our staff. Mr. Mann, the instructor in smiths' work, left at the end of 1906 to proceed to England, and his place has been filled by Mr. W. Penfold. The department under his care is making satisfactory progress.

The method of teaching the pupils is very much the same as that given to apprentices in English workshops. The pupils are not employed in making useless fancy articles, but in making useful everyday things, as doors and windows, &c., and they get a great deal of practical experience in the contract work which we undertake. During the first year it meant a great waste, in many cases, of good materials, but we find that it is quite the best in the long run, for the boys who have passed through their first year are getting most useful and can be left to themselves to complete many small jobs.

The conduct of the pupils during the past year has been good.

I have to thank the staff, European and Native, for the loyal support they have given me, and for the tact they have exercised in maintaining discipline. The average age of the pupils is 20, and it requires tact and discretion on the part of the teachers to maintain discipline among pupils of this age, who have never been under any restraint or discipline before coming to the school.

NELSON W. FOGARTY,
Director of the Government Industrial School.

Maseru,
30th June, 1907.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT VETERINARY OFFICER, 1906-7.

Maseru,
30th August, 1907.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you, herewith, my Third Annual Report, dealing with stockbreeding and stock-diseases, subjects which during the past year have engaged my attention.

A.—GENERAL REMARKS.

(1) The *rainfall* has throughout the country been considerably above the usual average, and a natural consequence of the increased moisture in soil and air was a very satisfactory appearance of the veld nearly all the year round. This change, however, cannot be said to have been an unmixed blessing for, as invariably the case, it was quickly followed by a higher rate of morbidity and mortality from such diseases which are due to macro- or micro-organisms capable, under such conditions, of showing more rapid propagation and thus greater activity for evil. Foretold should be forewarned, and stockbreeders would do well to keep this fact in mind, and to acquaint themselves beforehand with the methods of battling against these plagues.

(2) *Locusts*, both voetgangers and fliers, have, unfortunately, not been conspicuous by their absence, especially along our western border. It is to me a matter for congratulation that concerted action is contemplated by the South African States, including Basutoland, against this curse, but in a country like the latter, which has an abundance of live-stock, a happy-go-lucky native population, and limited grazing areas, often very thickly covered with luxurious grass, particular care must be taken to prevent injury or even loss of stock.

The occurrence at Kolo in the district of Mafeteng, where several big oxen and cows succumbed to acute inflammation of the bowels, combined with more or less complete paralysis of the locomotive apparatus, proves that proper instruction and care should by no means be "negligible quantities" during spraying operations.

(3) My *veterinary lectures* for the teachers present at the vacation course held during January, were continued at the request of the Director of the Industrial School, Maseru. I have naturally endeavoured to select matter of general interest to the public and of importance to the country. The subjects discussed in the past are "The necessity and value of Agricultural Schools," "Horse-breeding in South Africa and Basutoland in particular," "Diseased meat and its dangers to man," "The castration of stallions and the caponising of cocks." In addition

I handed to each teacher two pamphlets, on scab and on quarter-evil, for careful perusal, hoping in this way to spread light on these diseases.

(4) The *exportation of live-stock*, viz., sheep, slaughter oxen, and especially horses, has not been considerable. The heavy losses from horse-sickness in the other Colonies have induced many speculators to barter horses for cattle, a business to which Basuto are not in the least averse. But this trading in domestic animals, which is of great economic value to the country, as it has within its borders ever-increasing numbers of surplus live-stock, is more or less endangered on account of the restrictions which the adjoining States have now begun to place upon the removal of farm-stock from Basutoland. The tendency, I have no doubt, will be to make such regulations more severe and to extend them to various classes of animals—a system which our native population may perhaps think irksome and unnecessary, but which is dictated by a spirit of self-protection thoroughly justifiable under the circumstances.

(5) An Inter-Colonial *Veterinary Conference* was held in Bloemfontein during March, which I attended as the delegate from Basutoland. Important resolutions were submitted and discussed, dealing chiefly with Inter-state movements of horses, cattle, sheep, and dogs, and measures preventing the spreading of glanders, tuberculosis, contagious pleuro-pneumonia, scab, and rabies.

I understand that some months previously, in November, another colonial conference had been held, having as its object the question of Veterinary Research Laboratories—establishments which are of the very greatest importance to the South African flockmaster. It is, for this reason, much to be regretted that the deputy from Basutoland was a medical and not a veterinary officer, who would have approached the matter with the necessary professional experience and sense of responsibility.

B.—Special Remarks.

(a) *Contagious and Infectious Diseases.*

(1.) It is a matter for sincere congratulation that Basutoland during the past year has continued to enjoy complete freedom from *pleuro-pneumonia* and from *East Coast fever*, diseases which at this moment still greatly disturb the farmers' minds and the farming operations in some of the neighbouring colonies, notably Cape Colony and Natal. The first-named of these scourges, having, in years not far remote, been rampant in Basutoland, inflicting severe losses, is by no means unknown to our native population. It is to be hoped that the Administration will succeed in preventing inroads of this plague across our borders, although this constitutes a task that is by no means easy, owing to the insidious nature of the disease, which is due to an often

very protracted period of incubation and a not infrequently somewhat latent course run by the malady. A proclamation, regulating the introduction of cattle from the colony of the Cape of Good Hope, has been drafted by me and will, I think, shortly be promulgated.

East coast fever, the symptoms and method of eradication of which I had an opportunity of studying during a flying visit to Natal in September last, is still to us a matter of anxiety and a source of danger, although it cannot be gainsaid that the double-fenced and strongly guarded line of railway running from Harrismith to Pietermaritzburg, is greatly to our advantage and deserves even more trust as a line of defence than our arrangements along the Natal-Basutoland border. What this pest could or could not achieve if introduced amongst our native stock I do not intend now discussing. Suffice it to state that, in Basutoland, we have numbers of ticks, plentiful in summer and somewhat rare during the cold season, which are known to be able to spread East Coast fever after they have once become infected with the piroplasma. It is, therefore, prudent to keep a watchful eye and to be up and doing instead of trusting in a purely imaginary immunity, whilst certain specific conditions prevailing in this territory would only produce in the long run more or less unimportant modification in the behaviour of an outbreak.

(2) *Anthrax* and *quarter-evil* have been very prevalent, practically all over Basutoland, during the past year. Statistics, which would form interesting as well as important reading, continue, unfortunately, to be non-existing, but it would not be difficult to prove, by means of an inquiry, that the losses amongst cattle have been very considerable. Indeed the virulence of the infection was frequently so remarkable that in many quarter-evil areas not only young calves and old cows, a very unusual experience in ordinary years, succumbed to the malady, but that even sheep and goats were not spared. Furthermore it may be worth recording that these outbreaks extended over a long period and that even in mid-winter, in June and July, cases were brought to my notice.

All these observations are due to the fact that the increased rainfall was particularly favourable to a rapid propagation of the micro-organisms which cause these maladies, and it is not too much to look forward to a renewal of such outbreaks during the coming season. There is also no doubt that the unclean habit of the Basuto to use for home consumption any carcase lying in the veld greatly tends to spread these maladies, on account of the constant re-infection of grass and soil, which goes hand-in-hand with their contamination.

It is fortunate that these dangerous maladies can be checked, and in course of time even completely eradicated from any area, by means of vaccine inoculations, but unless Basutoland has a staff of district veterinary surgeons to perform these difficult

operations, I am afraid their discovery will not be of material benefit to this country. To hand anthrax vaccine to laymen would be a mistake, and although I have been obliged, in spite of strong remonstrance from the Pasteur Institute, to send out quarter-evil vaccine to native inoculators, I had, for technical and other reasons, to select an inferior, because simpler, method, as the most life-saving, and therefore most commendable, method could not be entrusted to the ordinary man.

(3) *Glanders*, I regret to state, is gradually but surely gaining ground in Basutoland, although, owing to the non-enforcement of compulsory notification of all outbreaks, it is impossible to say to what extent such is the case. Unfortunately there exists, at least to the eyes of laymen, a more or less distinct resemblance between this ruinous plague and other maladies, prevalent amongst equines, as for instance acute or chronic catarrhs of the nose or sinus of the head, ordinary lymphangitis, strangles, and infections of various descriptions, producing sores and abscesses here or there on the body. Thus horse-owners do, as a rule, not realise that their animal is suffering from glanders until the disease is in a very advanced stage and has spread to others hitherto healthy. In this manner the disease gets a firm hold and does a corresponding amount of damage, especially as opportunities to contract the disease are by no means rare in Basutoland, the natives being fond of gathering together in large parties for agricultural, religious, legal, and other purposes.

The forms which glanders assumes in this country are the same as elsewhere and chiefly depend upon the initial seat of infection. Bacilli rubbed into the skin produce first of all what people commonly call farcy, cutane glanders, whilst an infection of the nose is followed by nasal discharge combined with ulcerations of the mucous membrane and an indurative process of the lymphatic glands. When the lungs become chiefly diseased we have the pulmonary form, which like the others may be acute or chronic, with its characteristic pathological lesions. Then there is the typical, and atypical, reactor, a horse probably infected through the digestive apparatus and not showing any external symptoms. Such animals appear not infrequently quite fit and fat, nothing whatever suggesting that they have been in contact with virulent material. It is only by means of mallein (malleus = glanders)—that diagnostic which has, in a measure, reformed our knowledge of the disease and its eradication—that they can be detected, and then either be placed under surveillance or destroyed. I must add, that in order to combat glanders successfully, a certain line of policy, finding expression in hard and fast rules, should be followed, wherever the disease exists, and I would strongly advise that these be laid down as early as possible and embodied in a proclamation. Our present practice, to have everything glandered, reactors included, destroyed, and a certain amount of compensation given to owners, is highly commendable; but unless we have a

complete set of regulations, and enforce the same throughout Basutoland, making the contents known in every "stad," store, and station of the missions, I am certain that the advantages gained by means of this expenditure, will only be temporary and individual and thus unsatisfactory.

(4) *Scab* continues to be prevalent amongst all classes of farm stock, particularly horses and sheep. More or less dormant during the season when the grass is plentiful and the animals gaining in condition, the disease becomes very evident during the winter, and many calls for advice and help reach me.

To encourage curing sheep's scab, and to bring the best method known, viz., dipping, still more within the reach of the public, the Administration has gone on with the work of erecting dipping stations and placing these important establishments at the disposal of owners of small stock. I understand that all our tanks have been fairly well patronised by flock-masters, and I trust they will remain in favour, even when the natives find out that the relief thus attained at a small outlay is but a temporary one, making it necessary to repeat the washing year by year. To derive a more lasting benefit would require infinitely more trouble and a much larger expenditure; indeed an organisation complete in every way, and taking the work altogether out of the hands of the scab-breeding public. Dipping is useful, but when animals thus treated are at once returned to their parasite-infected homesteads or soon again brought into contact with infected flocks, there is no chance of permanent improvement.

More important, however, and at the same time less expensive than a scheme dealing with the complete eradication of scab in sheep and goats within this native territory, are, in my opinion, measures which have as their object the cleaning of all those animals which are taken across our border and removed to an adjoining State. It is unquestionably in our own interest to do everything in our power to keep the markets for our live-stock open, but such is only possible by presenting animals all of which are quite free from contagious diseases. The Cape Colony is already practically closed to our sheep, and I have not much hope that the Government of the Orange River Colony will long continue their policy of paying for ports of entry which, in the first place, benefit the Basuto.

(5) Of other diseases which are of particular interest I may mention *horse-sickness*, as this plague has, during the past autumn, carried off a few horses—an occurrence which indeed is very rare, and shows how virulent this scourge has been in the other less fortunate colonies.

(*a*) Contagious and infectious diseases amongst *poultry* are also by no means uncommon in Basutoland, and not infrequently they cause very considerable loss to keepers of these useful animals. Worthy of special notice were, during the past year, outbreaks of a most virulent hæmorrhagic enteritis, affecting chiefly

turkeys, which here are often seen in large troops. As this pest is exceedingly fatal, having a mortality of at least 90 per cent., a bacteriological investigation into the nature of the malady would be particularly interesting. Fowls are also susceptible, whilst ducks, geese, and pigeons seem to enjoy an immunity.

I have only mentioned the most important diseases observed by me, leaving alone those of minor interest, as for instance strangles and lymphangitis in horses, gall-sickness and actinemyeosis in cattle, gylzickte and jag-sickness in sheep, or measles in pigs.

(b) *Ordinary Ailments in Stock.*

During the past year I have in a considerable number of cases (1,207) given advice, free of charge, either verbally or by letter with regard to maladies common amongst all animals, such as disorders or inflammations of various organs. I have also in many cases given surgical help, and amongst these are 73 castrations. As the country is teeming with useless stallions, I have rather encouraged the natives to bring their entires to me, wishing to demonstrate to them that this operation, when properly performed, involves practically no risk. Although professional work is best done by professional men, I believe that, in the absence of such, a not inconsiderable amount of good could be done by instructing a number of suitable men in each district in a reliable method of emasculating farmstock. The necessary instruments could be supplied to them, and they would of course be entitled to a remuneration payable by the owners of the animals thus operated upon.

(c) *Stock Department.*

(*a*) *Stallions.*—Unfortunately one of the Arabs imported from India some years back was struck by lightning in his stable at Butha Buthe and died, so that the number of sires was during the past year again reduced and now amounts to nine. The killed stallion was Sahid, an animal only 7–8 years old. Kohat, who, in exchange for the Arab Beecham, has been on loan to the Government of the Orange River Colony, returned from the stud farm Tweespruit, and is stationed at Mafeteng.

On the whole the health of these stallions has been satisfactory, only two of them, viz., Kohat and Farsang, undergoing a somewhat lengthy veterinary treatment. We possess, as far as I know, no detailed description of all our stallions, giving colour, marks, age, height, together with any other remarks of special interest, such as condition, defects, diseases, &c., and I would advise that such a list be made. Furthermore, their progeny should be booked and carefully examined, not, however, on an Agricultural Show day, which leaves not sufficient time for this important work. Judging and comparing the foals would allow the

drawing of conclusions as to the quality of our stallions, of which we know practically nothing. They served each from 15 to 53 mares, the average being 34, a number which cannot be considered encouraging. How many foals are year by year produced would be most interesting to know, but unfortunately the register is found wanting in this respect. As the services of our stallions are given free of any charge, it would be desirable to inquire into the reason why they are not more patronised.

(*b*) *Bulls.*—Basutoland being a grand cattle country, steps should, as soon as possible, be taken to improve our breeds, which are undersized, badly built, and poor milkers. A beginning should be made in our magistracies by placing at the disposal of cattle-owners suitable bulls, selected from well-known good milking strains. Friesianders would be very acceptable and would, I am sure, prove to be more valuable and more beneficial to the general public than anything else yet imported for the improvement of our live stock.

(*c*) *Sheep-rams.*—The introduction of suitable rams for our flocks of sheep was continued during the past year, the majority (80) of animals being purchased at Glencairn in the Division of Cathcart. The general appearance of the veld on this fine estate, its altitude, and climate are identical with that of Basutoland, and its rams, which are of the Rambouillet type, are therefore easily acclimatised. Altogether the sum of £500 has been spent for this purpose, an amount which, I believe, was originally intended for the purchase of both sheep and Angora rams, but was hardly large enough to be divided in this manner. Thus sheep-breeding, which is not only an older and more widespread industry but is also better suited for our grassy and often frost and snow swept mountain slopes and valleys, received the full benefit of this sum, putting off, for a while, the improvement of our Angora flocks, the owners of which, I have no doubt, also deserve our sympathy and consideration.

(*d*) *Agricultural Shows* were again held in various districts, Maseru included. The necessity, especially in the latter place, of a sufficiently large and properly fitted up showground is very evident, if we are desirous of making such exhibitions what they ought to be, viz., valuable object lessons for the breeders of stock and the Government, instead of mere huge gatherings for man and beast. Once these facilities are granted, we could use more discretion in the selection of our judges of live stock, whose reports and advice would prove most valuable to the country.

(*e*) *Stud-farm.*—Basutoland being one of the finest stock-breeding and agricultural countries, the establishment of a Government farm, where our stud stock can be housed and shown and even made use of for breeding purposes during certain periods of the year, should form the object of serious consideration. Such a farm, which by no means requires a big area nor insuperably large funds, could with palpable advantage to this nation serve at the same time as a training school for our

more intelligent native youths. Whilst industrial schools are thought indispensable, and rightly so, our biggest and most important industries, in which the vast majority of our inhabitants are engaged daily, may well claim attention and fostering. Breeding live-stock and tilling the soil are pursuits which, without suitable teaching and practical instruction, cannot be expected to make headway.

Concluding Remarks.

My clerical duties have been somewhat heavy, having despatched during the past financial year 509 official notes, letters, reports, telegrams, or certificates.

It gave me genuine pleasure to peruse the circular issued during February by His Excellency the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Lord Elgin, and dealing with the appointment of veterinary surgeons with the special object "to put veterinary matters on a better footing." The remarks made therein exactly hit the proverbial nail on its head, and they are therefore worthy of the most careful study. It must in this respect be remembered that Basutoland has horses, cattle, sheep, and goats valued at probably four to five million pounds sterling, that contagious diseases are on the increase, that the adjoining States view this position with growing suspicion, and that we possess no veterinary department which could, throughout the land, take care of the live stock and assist the inhabitants. There is only one Government veterinary officer, a sort of professional adviser without much responsibility or authority, with undefined duties, without any assistance whatever, without most of the necessaries usually placed at the disposal of such officials, with insufficient travelling and subsistence allowance, and without legal claim to a pension for services rendered.

I have, &c.,

Otto Henning,

Government Veterinary Officer.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
523	Ashanti	1906
524	Jamaica	1905–1906
525	Uganda	"
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon	"
528	Bermuda	"
529	Gibraltar	"
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
531	Sierra Leone	"
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906–1907
533	Weihaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906–1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906–1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906–1907
543	Bahamas...	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906–1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia	1906–1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906–1907

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
41	East Africa Protectorate ...	Report on Kenia Forests.
42	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1905–6.
43	Caicos Islands	Fibre.
44	East Africa Protectorate ...	Survey Department.
45	Do. ...	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1904–5.
47	Do.	Do. 1905–6.
48	Nyasaland Protectorate ...	Mineral Survey.

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1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 595.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORTS FOR 1907-8.

(For Reports for 1906-7, *see* No. 556.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty

March, 1909.

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1909.

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No. 595.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1906-7, *see* No. 556.)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

High Commissioner's Office,
Johannesburg,
November 16th, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to enclose a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland, forwarding the Annual Reports on that territory for the year 1907-8, together with a copy of my reply.

2. I invite your Lordship's special attention to the important and, I believe, correct statement, made in paragraph 6 of the Report of the Director of the Government Industrial School, relative to the ability of natives to supervise machinery.

I have, &c.,
SELBORNE,
High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Crewe, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

Resident Commissioner's Office,

Maseru,
October 30th, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith my Annual Report, together with that of the Government Secretary, Assistant Commissioners, and other Officers of the Territory, for the year ending June 30th, 1908.

I have, &c.,
H. C. SLOLEY,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency
The Right Honourable
The Earl of Selborne, P.C., G.C.M.G.,
High Commissioner of South Africa.

(12288—2.) Wt. 26122—322. 1125. 3/09. D & S. A 2

LIST OF BASUTOLAND ANNUAL REPORTS, 1907-8

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Government Secretary's Report.
Meteorological Report.
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Officer-in-Charge, Butha Buthe.
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Report of Inspector of Education.
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ANNUAL REPORT ON BASUTOLAND FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1908.

The revenue of Basutoland for the year ended 30th June, 1908, amounted to £116,529 11*s.* 10*d.*, being in excess of the estimated amount by £1,779 11*s.* 10*d.*, and also exceeding the revenue of any previous year.

Hut Tax was paid rather slowly, but the amount collected during the year was again in excess of any previous collection, amounting to £65,456.

The expenditure amounted to £126,603 10*s.* 6*d.*, exceeding the revenue by £10,073 18*s.* 8*d.* This excess of expenditure over revenue was occasioned by charges for certain specially authorised public works having to be met during the year. The balance of assets has been reduced by a corresponding amount.

Returns, given in the Government Secretary's Report, show that the total value of exports for the past year was £63,400 in excess of the year before. This increase is to be accounted for by a fair average crop of grain and by a very satisfactory increase in the amount and value of wool and mohair exported. The wool industry is becoming of much importance, and I am sure that the moderate sums annually spent in purchase and distribution of well-bred sheep are well applied.

The destruction of locusts while in the crawling stage was carried out with great success in most districts. It is, unfortunately, a fact that the use of arsenic spray is attended with danger to stock. Several cattle were poisoned by grazing on grass that had been treated with the arsenical mixture, and the natural result was that in certain localities the natives objected to the process. The general success of the campaign against the young locust has, however, been so marked, that, in dealing with any future visitations, the active co-operation of the whole native population may be expected.

The prevalence of the cattle disease known as East Coast fever in Natal has necessitated the exercise of great vigilance in order to prevent the possibility of the introduction of the sickness into Basutoland. All passes through which cattle could possibly be introduced from Natal are being blocked with walls or fences, and a force of special guards, under European officers, is employed in watching the border. In addition to these measures, efforts have been made to arouse native public opinion as to the existence of the danger, and the necessity for taking steps to avert it. A pamphlet, both in English and in the native language, setting forth the danger of the situation, has been widely distributed, and a party of native delegates, accompanied by the Government Veterinary Officer, proceeded to Natal, where they were able to have ocular demonstration of the destructive character of the disease. I trust that the measures taken, combined with the altitude and climate of Basutoland (which I understand are unfavourable for the spread of the disease), will suffice to protect this Territory from the danger of an outbreak.

In February, by the courtesy of the Cape Colonial Government, Mr. Heywood, Conservator of Forests in the Cape Department, paid a visit to Basutoland, examining the conditions as regards the capabilities of the country for the extension of forestry and tree-planting. Mr. Heywood, after visiting every Government Station in Basutoland, has prepared an exhaustive and most valuable report which will be a great stimulus to the efforts which have been made to introduce useful and ornamental trees into this country, which is, naturally, deficient in growth of timber.

The system of labour recruiting for the mines and other fields of employment has been much improved by the operation of Proclamation No. 27 of 1907, which, by requiring a substantial deposit from agents engaged in the business of enrolling labourers, has excluded irresponsible and undesirable persons.

The following legislative Proclamations have been issued:—

1. Proclamation No. 20, 1907. Extending provisions of Fugitive Offenders Act, Basutoland-Swaziland.
2. Proclamation No. 23, 1907. Game Preservation Proclamation.
3. Proclamation No. 26, 1907. Notice No. 92, 1907 ... Duty on exportation of Angora rams.

4.	Proclamation No. 27, 1907.	Basutoland Native Labour Proclamation.
5.	Notice No. 103, 1907 ...	Certificates for bounty on Australian sugar.
6.	Proclamation No. 34, 1907.	Providing penalties for failure in complying with Marriage Order in Council.
7.	Proclamation No. 35, 1907.	Providing for appointment of an Officer as Master of the Court in Basutoland.
8.	Notice No. 118, 1907 ...	Appointing Lewis Wroughton, Esq., as Master of the Court.
9.	Proclamation No. 40, 1907.	Restricting exportation of ostriches and ostrich eggs.
10.	Notice No. 229, 1907 ...	Notifying to which of the South African Colonies and Territories the above restrictions do not apply.
11.	Proclamation No. 43, 1907.	Basutoland Native Labour Amendment Proclamation.
12.	Proclamation No. 46, 1907.	Making provision for the peace, order, and good government of Basutoland.
13.	Proclamation No. 7, 1908.	Restricting introduction of cattle into Basutoland from the Cape Colony.
14.	Proclamation No. 11, 1908.	Prisoners Detention Act.
15.	Proclamation No. 12, 1908.	Basutoland convicts may be transferred to Cape Colony for detention.
16.	Proclamation No. 13, 1908.	Pension Proclamation.
17.	Proclamation No. 23, 1908.	East Coast Fever Regulations.

I have been in consultation with the Principal Medical Officer upon the advisability of recommending legislation to regulate medical practice and the sale of drugs, and otherwise to deal with matters of public health, and the question is still under consideration.

A report by Mr. Dutton, the Inspector of Education, is annexed, and the reports of the Principal Medical Officer and other Medical Officers give accounts of the hospital and medical work.

The police and judicial returns show that 80 arrests were made for contravention of the laws against the introduction of intoxicating drink. The subject has been dealt with in special reports, and it is only necessary to say here that a considerable quantity of brandy continues to be illegally introduced from the Cape Colony and Orange River Colony. Two Europeans were sentenced during the year under report, for the offence of introducing and selling firearms; I fear that there is reason to

believe that these are by no means isolated cases, and that there are many Europeans who occasionally engage in this traffic, though, naturally, it is very difficult to obtain information and effect arrests and convictions.

It has been necessary to build prison accommodation for female prisoners; there have been several cases of infanticide and concealment of birth.

Internal native political questions continue to absorb much of the time and attention of myself and District Officers. In view of the fact that there exist so many vexatious questions as to land rights, it is much to the credit of the Paramount Chief and other Chiefs that serious quarrels so seldom occur. There is no doubt that the Chiefs quite realise the importance of the preservation of the peace of the country. The settlement of Jonathan's sons, and the quarrel between the Chiefs Griffith and Masefabatho, have been the subject of special reports.

The condition of the public roads through the country, although not perfect, has probably never been better than at present. The opening of a substantial stone bridge over the Little Caledon River took place in June, and the construction of another bridge on the Hlotsi River was immediately commenced. The improvement of means of communication in the respect of these bridges will be of great public benefit. The following are the principal public works carried out during the year:—

Bridge over Little Caledon River, Maseru District.
Bridge over Caledon River, near Ficksburg.
Commencement of Hlotsi River bridge.
Completion of new hospital at Leribe.
New Government offices at Mafeteng.
New Assistant Commissioner's quarters and gaol at Quthing.
House for Paramount Chief at Maseru.
New record room at Headquarter offices, Maseru.
Store at Mafeteng offices.
New Sub-Inspector's quarters, Leribe.
Completion of post office at Morija.

I regret to record the death of the Rev. George Théophile Lorriaux, a much respected missionary of the Paris Evangelical Mission Society.

By the accidental death, by drowning, of the Chief Khetisa, the Government has lost a very useful and trusted servant.

The third session of the Basutoland National Council took place in February*, and the notes on proceedings were submitted in a special report. The construction of a new and commodious building for the use of the Council is occupying the attention of the Inspector of Public Works, and the building will be commenced immediately.

H. C. SLOLEY,
Resident Commissioner.

* *See* [Cd. 4196].

THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1907-8.

Government Secretary's Office,
Maseru, June 30th, 1908.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the usual Annual Reports for Basutoland for the year ending June 30th, 1908, and also the statistical returns for the Territory for the same period, compiled from these Reports and other sources.

The year may be taken to have been a fair one agriculturally—a good spring was followed by a dry late summer and autumn, which at one time threatened the success of the standing crops. Eventually, however, the crops reaped proved to be up to the average, and the exports from the Territory have largely increased in the current year both in quantity and value.

I am happy to be able to report the great success which attended our campaign of 1907 against the voetganger locusts. The whole country from north to south was more or less infected, and had it not been for the vigorous measures taken against them by the Assistant Commissioners in their respective districts, little, if any, of the crops would have come to maturity. At an expenditure of £4,354, however, the voetgangers were almost exterminated, and I am happy to say that no fresh egg-laying has been reported throughout the territory in the current year. The Orange River Colony Government were also most active in the campaign, with excellent results, and it is sincerely to be hoped that these most successful efforts will be in no way relaxed until the locust scourge is a thing of the past.

Expenditure this year has for the first time exceeded revenue by some £10,000, a result brought about by the increase in extra public works at present being carried on. I attach a comparative return showing the revenue and expenditure of the Administration for the last five years:—

Year ending	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
June 30, 1904 ...	106,794	15	8	72,393	18	4
June 30, 1905 ...	97,034	1	6	78,837	8	2
June 30, 1906 ...	98,515	6	3	93,333	13	8
June 30, 1907 ...	111,903	17	9	108,832	19	4
June 30, 1908 ...	116,529	11	10	126,603	10	6

and also returns showing the revenue and expenditure for the current year in detail:—

Revenue in Detail of Heads, 1907–1908.

——	Hut Tax.	Licences.	Fees of Court.	Post Office.	Miscellaneous.	Customs.	Interest.	Total.
	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Headquarters	—	—	193 19 8	3,176 18 3	461 17 1	36,767 18 6	5,316 5 2	45,916 18 8
Leribe	14,424	615 10 0	51 11 3	—	162 3 0	28 13 4	—	15,281 17 7
Berea	6,471	322 0 0	3 10 6	—	30 8 4	24 4 3	—	6,851 3 1
Maseru	11,758	757 16 6	14 11 0	—	31 13 8	30 19 6	—	12,593 0 8
Mafeteng	10,712	578 15 0	33 6 3	—	457 3 9	76 0 0	—	11,857 5 0
Mohales Hoek ...	11,277	564 8 0	5 10 6	—	142 9 6	68 3 8	—	12,057 11 8
Quthing	6,456	455 12 9	6 8 6	—	94 8 6	30 18 3	—	7,043 8 0
Qacha's Nek	258	441 12 0	1 10 0	—	99 12 9	27 12 5	—	4,928 7 2
Total	65,456	3,735 14 3	310 7 8	3,176 18 3	1,479 16 7	37,054 9 11	5,316 5 2	116,529 11 10

Expenditure for the Year 1907–8.

	£	s.	d.
1. Establishments	14,316	15	9
2. Police	17,619	17	0
3. Post Office	3,992	16	10
4. Allowances, Chiefs and Headmen, Percentage on Hut Tax	5,800	16	6
5. Medical Expenses	349	3	7
6. Office Contingencies	1,216	16	7
7. Revenue Services	398	2	9
8. Administration of Justice ...	223	7	6
9. Gaols	1,916	13	6
10. Transport	352	7	6
11. Public Works	46,211	4	8
12. Hospitals	7,518	7	3
13. Education	11,962	1	4
14. Rewards for Special Services ...	169	10	0
15. Audit	241	3	10
16. Miscellaneous	3,200	18	7
17. Agriculture	10,527	6	3
18. National Council	586	1	1
Total	£126,603	10	6

Statement of Liabilities and Assets on 30th June, 1908.

Liabilities:—Nil.

Assets:—

	£	s.	d.
Cash in Treasury Chest	2,124	5	8
Balance at Standard Bank, Maseru ...	15,685	14	5
Balance in hands of Sub-Accountants ...	1,681	5	1
Balance in hands of Crown Agents ...	1,792	17	4
On Loan to Central South African Railways	30,000	0	0
On Loan to Swaziland Administration ...	15,000	0	0
On fixed deposit with Standard Bank ...	85,000	0	0
Total	£151,284	2	6

Revenue amounted in all to £116,529 11*s.* 0*d.*, as against an expenditure of £126,603 10*s.* 6*d.* Hut tax was paid on 64,131 huts, while the arrear hut tax collected amounted to £2,287, as against £1,811 collected last year.

Commercial.

Comparative Return of Imports and Exports for the last Five Years.

Year ending	Imports.	Exports.
June 30, 1904	£298,140	£127,057
June 30, 1905	149,821	164,817
June 30, 1906	191,701	172,496
December 31, 1906 ...	242,353	185,155
December 31, 1907 ...	238,599	248,541

Owing largely to the better distribution of rain for some little time past, exports this year are very largely in excess of those of last year, both in quantity and value. Imports, however, are practically the same.

Table of Exports and Value.—Year ended 31st December, 1907.

Articles.	Quantity in lbs. or number.	Value.
Live stock.	No.	£.
Horses	265	3,680
Cattle	306	3,222
Sheep, goats	26	16
All other (pigs, poultry, &c.)	—	77
Corn, Grain, and Flour.	lbs.	
Kafir corn	4,724,377	10,726
Maize	36,116,994	73,468
Oats	748,707	2,012
Wheat	3,679,578	12,724
Flour (wheaten)	142,705	868
All other	633,445	2,083
Hair and Wool.		
Hair (Angora)	825,448	32,963
Wool (sheep's)	4,117,237	98,207
Hides and Skins.		
Hides (cattle)	17,165	480
Skins (sheep and goats)	108,458	2,188
Miscellaneous	—	921
,, (imported goods),	re-exported	4,906
Total		£248,541

Return of Goods Imported for the Year ended 31st December, 1907.

Articles.	Value.
Animals (horses, cattle, sheep, &c.)	£4,081
Apparel, slops, &c.	15,015
Bags of all sorts	6,718
Beads of all sorts	1,000
Cotton piece goods	11,592
Cotton manufactures	14,288
Food, drink (articles of)	25,326
Haberdashery and millinery	12,493
Hardware and cutlery, fencing material, &c....	7,391
Hats and caps	1,375
Implements (agricultural)	3,336
Leather and leather manufactures (including boots, shoes, and saddlery)	17,293
Soap of all kinds	3,918
Wood (manufactured and unmanufactured) ...	4,680
Woollen manufactures (including blankets and shawls	75,775
All other articles of merchandise	30,803
Total imports of merchandise	235,084
Articles for the use of Government ...	3,515
Grand total ...	£238,599

It is a great pleasure to note a partial recovery of the wheat crop, which in past years formed an important item among our exports, but which, owing to a succession of bad years, had shown signs of dying out.

The following licences were issued during the year:—

Return of Licences, 1907–8.

District.	General Trader.	Hawker.		Mill.	Labour Agents.	Game Licences.
		Paid.	Free.			
Leribe...	50	32	32	—	6	—
Berea	24	5	8	1	10	1
Maseru	28	35	133	2	34	—
Mafeteng	24	53	80	—	17	3
Mohale's Hoek ...	17	34	15	—	1	—
Quthing	11	21	24	—	1	—
Qacha's Nek	6	231	7	—	—	—
Total	163	411	299	3	69	4

As regards passes issued, the numbers to all practical intents remain unchanged this year, being 130,354, as against 127,885 last year. There appears a slight falling off in labourers for the Transvaal and Kimberley, and a slight increase under "Farm," "Domestic," and "Miscellaneous."

Below this will be found a tabulated return showing in detail passes issued and also a summary showing the proportion of passes issued for "Labour" and "Visiting" respectively.

Return of Passes issued, 1907–8.

Districts.	Visiting.			Transvaal Mines.	Indwe Coal Mine.	O. R. C. Mines.	Jagersfontein Mine.	Kimberley Mines.	Railway Construction	Farm and Domestic.	Miscellaneous.	Johannesburg Municipality	Total.
	Orange River Colony.	Cape Colony.	Natal.										
Leribe	20,610	195	121	6,889	—	357	—	241	3,624	2,941	15,782	—	50,760
Berea	5,039	146	—	1,228	—	—	—	1,015	2,771	1,612	1,930	—	13,741
Maseru...	6,901	743	—	6,260	—	945	—	1,003	229	496	1,959	—	18,536
Mafeteng	8,177	610	—	839	7	289	1,043	315	321	4,964	4,513	—	21,078
Mohales Hoek	1,533	1,234	5	212	32	336	881	208	—	2,997	2,353	—	9,791
Quthing	213	2,072	—	31	31	2	78	28	13	1,541	2,416	—	6,425
Qacha's Nek	91	3,546	227	110	18	—	12	28	—	972	4,995	24	10,023
Total	42,564	8,546	353	15,569	88	1,929	2,014	2,838	6,958	15,523	33,948	24	130,354

Summary of Labour Passes, 1907–8.

District.	Orange River Colony.	Cape Colony.	Natal.	Transvaal.	Farm and Domestic.	Miscellaneous.	Railway construction.	1907–8 Total.
Leribe ...	357	241	—	6,889	2,941	15,782	3,624	29,834
Berea ...	—	1,015	—	1,228	1,612	1,930	2,771	8,556
Maseru ...	945	1,003	—	6,260	496	1,959	229	10,892
Mafeteng ...	1,332	322	—	839	4,964	4,513	321	12,291
Mohales Hoek	1,217	240	—	212	2,997	2,353	—	7,019
Quthing ...	80	59	—	31	1,541	2,416	13	4,140
Qacha's Nek...	12	18	—	134	972	4,995	—	6,131
Total ...	3,943	2,898	—	15,593	15,523	33,948	6,958	78,863
1906–7 ..	9,961	2,994	—	18,091	12,797	32,942	—	76,785

Return of Visiting Passes.

District.	1907-8.	1906-7.
Leribe	20,926	—
Berea	5,185	—
Maseru	7,644	—
Mafeteng	8,787	—
Mohales Hoek	2,772	—
Quthing	2,285	—
Qacha's Nek	3,864	—
	51,463	51,100

Police and Judicial.

Under the head of "Police and Judicial" I append the following returns:—

European officers	14
,, constables	6
Native officers	3
,, constables	4
,, sergeants	8
,, corporals	11
,, privates	244
Special police	4

Patrol Return, showing Arrests, &c, 1907–8.

Number of patrols	2,638
,, men on patrol	3,679
,, miles patrolled	81,454
Arrests under Liquor Laws	80
,, ,, Pass Laws	139
Other offences	144

Gaol Return, 1907–8.

Prisoners received into gaol	470
,, convicted	371
,, discharged unconvicted ...	96
,, in gaol 30th June, 1908 ...	135
,, transferred	12
Floggings inflicted	1

Return of Judicial Cases heard in Assistant-Commissioners' Courts, 1907–8.

Culpable homicide	13
Theft	57
Pass Regulations	127
Liquor Regulations	67
Trading Regulations	25
Resisting Police	31
Assault	14
Rape	2
Other crimes	83
Civil cases	24
Total	443

Summary :—

Criminal cases	419
Civil cases	24

With reference to the above, I would draw Your Honour's attention to the continued increase in the number of arrests on the border for contravention of the Liquor Regulations of the territory.

Education.

In the matter of education it is to be noted that the figures, though still showing a slightly downward tendency, remain much the same as for some years past.

Education Return, 1907–8.

Particulars.	1906-7.	1907-8.
Expenditure	£14,000 16*s.* 11*d.*	£11,962 1*s.* 4*d.*
Scholars	12,275	11,680
Schools	246	241
Mean average attendance	9,454	9,249

Post and Telegraph.

The results of our postal and telegraph reorganisation referred to by me last year have been very apparent this year in the increased efficiency of the various post offices and the general ease and regularity with which the work has been carried on.

I have once more to thank the Postmaster-General, Cape Colony, for his courtesy in supplying the following postal and telegraph figures for Basutoland for the past twelve months:—

Correspondence.

	1907-8.	1906-7.
Letters, &c., Posted in Basutoland ...	349,430	425,126
,, Delivered in Basutoland—		
"Forward"	290,966	328,055
Delivered	500,580	542,958

Money Orders.

			£	s.	d.
Issued	3,999	Value	13,830	14	1
Paid	2,861	,,	12,807	13	7

Savings Bank.

			£	s.	d.
Deposits	344	Value	2,512	1	0
Withdawals ...	109	,,	2,348	14	8

Telegraphs.

	£	s.	d.
Revenue	864	3	4

Postal Notes.

	£	s.	d.
Issues (5,641)	2,672	9	3
Payments (4,235)	1,966	11	6

Meteorological.

The following meteorological report has been supplied to me by Dr. N. M. MacFarlane, Medical Officer, Leribe, who has most kindly undertaken the supervision of this branch of work.

I have, &c.,

L. Wroughton,

Government Secretary.

His Honour

The Resident Commissioner

Basutoland.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT, YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1908.

In this Territory there are nine Auxiliary Climatological Stations at which observations are taken once daily, at 9 a.m., Cape mean time. These stations are furnished with wet and dry bulb thermometers (Hygrometer), maximum and minimum thermometers, and a rain gauge. The names of these stations, with their altitude, latitude, and longitude, are as follows, from north to south :—

Station.	Altitude.	Latitude	Longitude.
	Ft.	S	E.
Butha Buthe	6,220	28° 45′	28° 15′
Leribe	5,460	28° 52′	28° 3′
Teyateyaneng	5,740	29° 9′	27° 45′
Maseru	5,100	29° 18′	27° 28′
Morija	5,300	29° 37′	27° 30′
Mafeteng	5,450	29° 50′	27° 14′
Mohales Hoek	—	—	—
Quthing	—	—	—
Qachas Nek	6,200	30° 7′	28° 41′

Complete records for the year have been obtained from all these stations with the exception of Butha Buthe, where the thermometers are out of order, and Mafeteng during December, when no thermometrical observations were taken.

New registers were printed and issued to all stations during the year, and monthly forms, similar to a sheet of the register, accompanied them. These were returned to this office at the end of each month. Columns for wind and other weather phenomena were introduced into the registers for the purpose of affording a general survey of the daily state of the weather pertaining at each particular station. I regret to state that, with the exception of Leribe and Morija, no weather observations were returned at all, or in so imperfect a form as to be useless for the purpose for which they were intended. Five minutes spent in the morning in filling up these weather columns would afford a mass of invaluable information, which is not to be got from the bare thermometrical records which are usually sent to me. For instance, it would be interesting to know why Maseru and Mafeteng have a much smaller rainfall this year than other stations, and why Qachas Nek has a larger one than usual. Also, why Qachas Nek should record an absolute minimum temperature below freezing point every month of the year. Other instances could be noted where a careful and full record of non-instrumental phenomena would go far towards elucidation. The statistics in these monthly forms have all been reduced and tabulated, but are not included here.

The yearly means, however, for each station are recorded in table No. 1, which is appended.

The year on the whole has been an average one. The mean precipitation for all stations is slightly under the normal, which is 32 inches. A reference to the table will show that certain stations in the centre of the country fell considerably below this figure, whilst those in the north and the south were from three to ten inches over it. The summer rains during December, January, and February were less than have been recorded for a number of years, and as a consequence the maize and kaffir corn crops were light. Good and abundant rains fell during the Spring months of September, October, and November, and the wheat crop was above the average. August was the only month when no rain fell. It is interesting to note that at Leribe 133 thunderstorms were recorded, and were accompanied by rain on ninety-two occasions. That the same state of things pertains at other stations I have no means of knowing, but presuming that it does, it will be seen that the greater part of our rainfall is precipitated from these local storms. The mean monthly temperature was a degree below the normal. Morija will be seen to be our warmest station, and Qachas Nek our coldest, both due to their geographical positions —the one in the centre of the country on the slopes of a valley, and the other on the top of the Drakensberg. The mean maximum temperature was 72·8°, and the mean minimum 40·2°. The highest temperatures recorded were 100° at Quthing on January 18th, and 100° at Morija on January 19th. The lowest temperature—9°—was recorded at Qachas Nek on July 8th and 9th.

It will be noticed that the daily range is considerable.

The mean for the year is 32·3°, but during the winter months it is much more. It varies at different stations, and a difference of 50° is not unusual at Qachas Nek.

The mean dew point is 44·5°, and the relative humidity 62·4, particulars of which will be found in table 1.

The station at Leribe is equipped as a first order one, and in addition to the instruments already enumerated, there are a barograph, hygrograph, thermograph, self-recording rain gauge, sunshine recorder, various radiation instruments, and Dines anemometer. At this first order station observations are taken twice daily. The amount of information obtained is so large that it is not possible to give, in this short report, more than a general survey of the work done.

The Dines anemometer has proved very unsatisfactory, and I have stopped recording observations from it. The solar black bulb thermometer has also gone out of order, and no figures are available from it.

Pressure.—The monthly means of the barometer readings are recorded on table 2. This is the first year that a record has been made, and consequently no comparison is possible.

Sunshine.—There are very few days in which there is no sunshine, and consequently the daily mean is high. That for the year is 8·82 hours. February had the most sunshine with a mean of 9·60 hours. March was the lowest with a mean of 7·29 hours, due to cloudy skies and a considerable rainfall.

The cloud percentage is incomplete for two months, and is not included here.

Relative Wind Frequency.—The subjoined table gives the means for the year. The observations are too recent to permit of comment being made on them as yet.

Leribe. Percentage relative wind frequency 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Year ending 30th June, 1908.

N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm.
28	3·6	1·9	—	0·4	0·6	11·6	3·9	50

Earth Thermometers.—Four of these are in use—1 foot, 2 feet, 4 feet, and 6 feet. The yearly means are subjoined:—

Leribe. Yearly means of Earth Thermometers.

1 ft.	2 ft.	4 ft.	6 ft.
59·1	61·6	61·8	57·4

N. M. MacFarlane, M.D.

TABLE I.

Summary.

Means of all Auxiliary Climatological Stations. Year ending 30th June, 1908.

Station.	Dry Bulb.	Wet Bulb.	Self-Registering Thermometers. Maximum.	Minimum.	Monthly Temperature.	Daily Range.	Absolute Maximum.	Absolute Minimum.	Monthly Range.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity Sat. 100.	Rainfall. Amount Inches.	Days.
Butha-Buthe..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36·02	80
Leribe	56·6	49·5	70·9	41·8	56·3	29·0	79·4	32·2	46·8	43·2	61·1	36·01	103
Teyateyaneng	55·9	49·7	72·7	41·8	57·4	30·7	82·4	33·7	48·6	41·2	58·3	28·37	78
Maseru.. ..	57·9	50·6	76·8	41·6	59·3	34·9	86·1	30·0	55·2	44·4	60·9	22·99	57
Morija	61·9	57·9	74·2	46·7	60·4	27·5	83·6	38·0	46·5	54·1	77·0	33·30	99
Mafeteng ..	59·1	53·2	71·6	42·4	57·1	28·8	73·5	31·6	49·2	48·5	67·2	23·14	77
Mohales Hoek	57·7	50·2	70·8	40·0	55·3	30·6	79·8	29·3	50·5	43·0	58·2	28·30	69
Quthing ..	58·0	49·8	74·9	42·0	58·4	32·7	86·2	31·7	54·3	43·3	58·1	35·97	76
Qachas Nek ..	51·4	45·1	70·5	25·5	48·0	44·6	80·5	16·2	64·3	38·5	60·3	42·53	110
Totals ..	458·5	406·0	582·4	321·8	452·2	258·8	651·5	242·7	415·4	356·2	501·1	286·63	749
Means ..	57·3	50·7	72·8	40·2	56·5	32·3	81·4	30·3	51·9	44·5	62·4	31·84	83

TABLE II.

Leribe. Monthly means of Barometer Readings corrected to 32° for Year ending 30th June 1908.

Month.	9 a.m.		9 p.m.	
	Attached Thermometer.	Barometer.	Attached Thermometer.	Barometer.
July	49·5	25·130	55·8	25·078
August	51·5	25·104	59·1	24·980
September ...	61·0	25·007	62·4	24·989
October	62·3	24·928	65·2	24·916
November ...	67·5	24·864	66·7	24·821
December ...	68·8	24·898	69·1	24·876
January	70·3	24·915	69·2	24·902
February... ...	71·8	24·908	69·7	24·884
March	67·0	24·945	67·2	24·916
April	57·6	24·928	59·1	24·907
May	53·7	25·100	55·2	25·028
June	47·9	25·016	53·8	24·947
Total ...	728·9	299·743	752·5	299·244
Means ...	60·7	24·978	62·7	24·937

ANNUAL REPORT—LERIBE DISTRICT, 1907-8

The year has been a fairly peaceful one, owing, no doubt, to the re-arrangement in the early part of it of the villages allotted to Jonathan's sons—those who favoured Mathealira being sent to live near him in the west, while those who favoured Tau—that is to say, his own brothers—being moved to the east, with their uncles, the sons of Molapo, and people directly under Jonathan as a sort of buffer between the two factions. The settlement has so far proved quite satisfactory, and I see no reason to apprehend much trouble from this source in the near future.

During the year Motsueni has been asserting his claim to a definite and extended chieftainship, but so far the nation do not seem inclined to do much for him. By birth he is, of course, entitled to a very high place, but his character is not such as to make the extension of his authority very desirable in the public interest.

Matters at Makhoakhoeng have again become complicated by the physical and mental breakdown of the Chief Letsika. He suffered a paralytic stroke early in the year, and though he has recovered sufficiently to enable him to interfere in public matters, he is no longer able to deal with them properly. It may, therefore, be necessary for Government to deal more directly with matters in this ward than has hitherto been the custom.

I regret to say that much strong drink finds its way into this district from the Orange River Colony, and that many young chiefs have developed a taste for it. The police are constantly patrolling the border, and occasionally make some arrests, but as there are only sixty-five of them, including officers, and there are over eighty miles of open border to watch, it is not difficult for smugglers to avoid them. In this connection it is only right to say that the utmost co-operation is always afforded by the magistrate of Ficksburg and his police, and that several persons have been convicted and punished recently for supplying liquor to natives. For all that, it is still very easy for a native to obtain liquor in the Orange River Colony. The trade is very profitable, and the chance of detection small.

I have to record the death of the Chief Khetisa Molapo, who was drowned while trying to cross a swollen river in November last. The deceased, though quite illiterate, was a man of great natural ability and force of character. He had much influence among his fellows, and could always be relied upon to use it well. His judgment was rarely at fault, and his advice has often been very valuable. He was made a native officer in 1901.

The main roads in the district are in good repair, but unless an increased grant is given next year it will be necessary to curtail expenditure upon them in order to meet the change in the trade routes caused by the opening of the railway line along the border, the effect of which has been to throw all the heavy traffic upon what have hitherto only ranked as by-roads, and have, therefore, had very little money spent upon them.

A bridge is being constructed over the Hlotse river, which will be a great boon to the public.

The harvest has been very poor this year, and it is quite likely that grain will have to be imported. The scarcity has already had an effect upon the hut tax, which is £427 short this year—many people having been found to be absolutely without the means of paying.

The new hospital opened last December is much appreciated. It is always full, and I have even had, from time to time, to supply tents, &c., for extra accommodation.

The sheep dip continues to be well patronised; 1,669 animals were dipped during the year. Some well-bred rams and Angora goats are being issued to breeders, which ought to improve the breed, and I am glad to state that the Chief Jonathan has begun to interest himself in the eradication of burr-weed, which should have a good effect on the ward.

Our relations with officials of the Orange River Colony continue to be of a cordial nature.

I attach a report from the officer in charge Butha Buthe, and one from the medical officer here.*

J. C. MACGREGOR,

Assistant Commissioner.

Colonial Office Note.—The detailed returns included in this and the following reports of Assistant Commissioners have been omitted, as they are summarised in the report of the Government Secretary.

* See pages 38 and 39.

ANNUAL REPORT—BUTHA BUTHE, 1907-8.

The past year has been peaceful, and nothing of importance has occurred to disturb the peace of the ward.

I regret that I can see no improvement in the Tsimi matters, and I am afraid until some definite line is made between Joel and Hlasoa the friction will continue.

The Makhoakhoa have been quiet, but I regret that the question of who is to succeed Letsika has again been brought forward. This is to be regretted, as last year there was every indication that a reconciliation had taken place between Letsika and his eldest son Thakabanna.

In October locusts hatched out in Selomo's ward; prompt measures were taken for their destruction, and in eighteen days from starting work the whole swarm was destroyed. A small swarm was reported at Kota, and these were also destroyed in a few days.

Very little grain has been reaped this year owing to the lack of rain in the Spring and also an early frost.

I regret that there is a shortage in the hut tax on last year amounting to £19. Tax was paid on 4,101 huts. Arrear tax collected amounted to £57.

The roads are in good order.

The police detachment at this station is in an efficient state, and the various duties were satisfactorily performed.

L. GRIFFITH,

Inspector Basutoland Mounted Police.

ANNUAL REPORT—BEREA DISTRICT.

Assistant Commissioner's Office,
Berea.
July 4th, 1908.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit my annual report on the Berea district for the year ended June 30th, 1908.

The general state of the district has been satisfactory during the past year. There has been little serious crime, and beyond the usual boundary disputes no trouble among the people. At the time of writing the Paramount Chief is engaged in settling the two cases that have of late caused most of the trouble in the district—the position of Patso, and the relations between Koali and Moeketse. So it is to be hoped that little will be heard of these questions in future.

Several swarms of young locusts made their appearance in October, and means were at once taken to destroy them, and with great success.

I have been able to give away over 400 young trees from our Government nursery, and as soon as the Spring rains commence I shall be able to plant out about 1,000 more.

Our Agricultural Show was held on June 10th, and was quite up to the standard of previous years. I regret to say that at the races which came off after the Show there were a great many falls, and one boy received fatal injuries.

The roads in the district are in good order, in particular the one between Teyateyaneng and the Qhalaheng.

The sheep dipping tank here has been in work now for twelve months, during which time over 1,600 sheep and goats have been dipped. Nineteen good Rambouillet rams have been given out to various headmen during the year, and as far as possible preference was given to those who had destroyed burr-weed.

I regret to say that the hut tax has not been paid up well this year in some of the wards, and it is £196 short of last year's.

I have, &c.,

W. BOXWELL,

Assistant Commissioner.

His Honour

The Resident Commissioner,

Maseru.

ANNUAL REPORT—MASERU DISTRICT.

Office of the Assistant Commissioner,
Maseru, Basutoland,

30th June, 1908.

The political situation in the district is very satisfactory, no tribal disputes of any kind having arisen.

The amount of revenue received is slightly in excess of last year, owing to an increase in the amount of Hut Tax collected.

The number of passes issued shows a decrease under the two headings of "Visiting" and "Working." The former is accounted for by the restrictions imposed by the Orange River Colony Government on horses entering the Colony from Basutoland, and the latter by the fact that the mines in the Transvaal were full up with labour, and that the diamond mines in the Orange River Colony closed down.

I regret to have to report that brandy continues to be smuggled into the country from the Orange River Colony, if anything in greater quantities than usual. An increased number of convictions have been obtained for contraventions of the liquor law.

During the early spring, the locust eggs, to which I referred in my last report as having been deposited, began to hatch out,

and efforts were immediately made to destroy the young locusts. A tract of country, some 25 miles square, was literally a seething mass of young locusts. At first the natives were apathetic, and rendered very little assistance to the hired gangs who were busy destroying them, but when the swarms, which hatched out near the Paramount Chief's village, were successfully destroyed, he issued strict orders that the people were to turn out and assist in the operations, placing at my disposal one of his brothers with the necessary authority to call the people out. By these means I was able to destroy every swarm which hatched out in the district. The total number of swarms destroyed was 2,254, and the cost was £2,103. The materials used in the destruction were arsenic and sugar spray, but when the arsenite of soda was finished, a limited supply only being on hand, and no further supplies obtainable in South Africa, soap spray and burning at night with paraffin were resorted to. The latter methods proved expensive, but I was instructed to destroy by any means available. As a result of destroying these swarms, the crops of the district and border districts in the Orange River Colony were saved, the yield in oathay and wheat being considerably above the average of recent years. Owing to the presence of this pest, the mealie and kaffir-corn crops were sown late, and, as a result, many fields were destroyed by frost, though from reports received a fair crop of both these cereals has been reaped.

The Arab stallion standing at this station has been under treatment by the Veterinary Officer, but gradually became worse, and during the current month died. He was too ill to serve any mares during the season. The cause of death was Osteoporosis.

The sheep-dipping tank at Qeme, the only one in the district, continues to be freely used by the natives, and 7,299 sheep and goats passed through it during the year. A further 15 good rams have been purchased, and are being issued to responsible natives in the mountain area, where burr-weed does not thrive. I have not issued any to natives outside this area, as smaller efforts than usual have been made to eradicate burr-weed.

Some thousands of young trees have been issued during the year, and there appears to be a growing desire on the part of the natives to take advantage of getting them to plant out at their villages. In February, Mr. Heywood, of the Cape Forestry Department, visited Maseru, and his recommendations of the most suitable varieties of trees to go in for, and the manner of raising them, will be a most useful guide. Seeds of the varieties he recommends have been already ordered.

I am glad to be able to report that diseases amongst stock have been conspicuous by their absence. Glanders amongst horses, which was mentioned in my last report, has apparently quite died out, and no reports of the disease have been received for the last nine months.

An Agricultural Show was held here on the 22nd of May, and the exhibits compared very favourably with those of former years. The horse classes were exceptionally good, and the grain, though small in the quantity of exhibits, was immensely superior in quality.

The meeting of the National Council took place during the latter part of January and beginning of February at Maseru, when subjects of national importance were discussed.

The hospital at Maseru continues to be very greatly appreciated, and is seldom with an empty bed in it for more than two or three days at a time. The general health of the district has been most satisfactory; no reports of any epidemics have been received.

The health of the village has not been quite so satisfactory, but the Principal Medical Officer will probably report on this. Owing to the number of mine labourers leaving and returning by rail, it has been found necessary to erect a shelter capable of containing a few hundreds at the railway station, and this may have the effect of keeping the village in a more sanitary condition.

Since the completion of the new reservoir, the water supply for the village has proved ample for domestic purposes.

The roads in the district are in fair order. The completion of the bridge over the Little Caledon River is an event of very great importance. It was declared open for traffic by His Honour the Resident Commissioner on the 20th of June, in the presence of most of the Europeans of the district, and representatives of the Chiefs. The bridge is built entirely of stone, and a number of native stone-cutters were employed in its erection.

In September, Mr. Taberer, at that time Director of the Transvaal Government Native Labour Bureau, paid a visit to Maseru, and I was instructed to invite the Chiefs and the influential men of the district to meet him. The Chiefs sent their representatives, and a meeting took place between them and Mr. Taberer. Mr. Taberer explained the objects of the Bureau, but the feeling of the meeting was in favour of the appointment of an agent of the Basutoland Government to watch their interests in the labour area of the Rand, rather than an officer of the Transvaal Government who was unknown to them. The Bureau has proved useful in several ways:—

1. All natives going to work on the mines are registered, and friends and relatives are able to obtain news of them by applying to the Bureau, which undertakes to make the necessary inquiries and to send replies.

2. The Bureau, through its officers distributed throughout the labour area, investigates and settles all complaints which are brought to its notice, and receives, banks, or remits home all sums of money which may be entrusted to it.

3. The Bureau also receives and remits through this Government to relatives who can be traced, all monies due to estates of deceased persons.

I should like to bear testimony to the courtesy and despatch with which the officers of the Bureau attend to any queries which are submitted to them.

Religious instruction and educational work continue to be carried on by missionaries of the Paris Evangelical Mission

Society, the English and Roman Catholic Churches. The Government-aided schools have been visited and reported upon by Mr. Dutton, the Inspector of Education. Towards the latter end of 1907, a very serious outbreak occurred amongst the boys at the Normal Training School at Morija, which was shortly afterwards followed by another at the Government Industrial School, Maseru.

The laundry, under the auspices of the English Mission, is doing very good work, and when they get into their new premises, the building of which is in contemplation, they will be in a position to take in more work, which at present they are unable to do owing to want of accommodation.

CHAS. E. BOYES,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—MAFETENG DISTRICT, 1907-8.

GENERAL.

There have been no fresh political complications in Mafeteng District during the past year.

A collision between the Mafeteng police and some of the Mokoroane clan of the Bataung tribe, which took place in September, 1907, is a matter which properly belongs to the Mohales Hoek District, in which the Bataung Ward is situated. The incident will doubtless be reported upon by the Officer in charge of that district.

The sub-dividing of the BaMohale clan, by which certain sub-chiefs were removed from the control of the Chief Mahapela, has not worked well hitherto. The collection of Hut Tax has been considerably impeded thereby, and it has been found necessary to complain to the Paramount Chief of the indifference shown by his nominees in connection with this duty.

Owing partly to this cause, and partly to the experiment of allowing labourers to go out of the Territory without first paying the current year's tax, there has been unusual delay in the collection this year.

Stock-stealing has been prevalent, the thefts being mostly committed by natives, who in some cases appear to have been acting in collusion with Europeans residing in the Orange River Colony, to whom a number of stolen animals were traced.

The death of Councillor Kholokholo, which took place in October, 1907, deprived the Government of a useful adviser in native matters. He was one of the two men left in general charge when the Paramount Chief Letsie II. removed from Mafeteng

District to Morija in the year 1905. The vacancy caused by his death has not yet been filled. It is desirable that another man should be appointed, as the duties of the remaining Councillor, Lepolesa, frequently take him out of the district, and this office is therefore left without a responsible native on the spot, with whom to consult in cases of emergency.

AGRICULTURE.

Owing to the valuable co-operation of the authorities in the Orange River Colony, the hatching out of the locusts in the months of September and October, 1907, was comparatively easily dealt with, as we had practically only our own locusts to attend to, instead of being invaded by swarms from the Orange River Colony as was the case in 1906. Most of the swarms this year were destroyed as fast as they hatched out, before they had time to do mischief. The result has been that the wheat crop in this district and in the border districts of the Orange River Colony, is the best that has been reaped for several years.

Two months of drought, in January and February last, interfered seriously with the native crops of maize and Kaffir corn. It has been suggested that Government should provide threshing machines for use in Basutoland, to take the place of the present slovenly method of tramping out the grain by means of horses.

It is estimated that threshing by machinery would add three shillings per sack (of 200 lbs.) to the value of the wheat. The suggestion is, therefore, worthy of consideration.

An extensive grass paddock, for mares that are brought to the Government stud horses, is much needed. There can be no doubt that many of the mares brought by natives are taken home again before being properly stinted, the result being either that they have no foals, or that the paternity of the foals is doubtful.

Some of the young horses exhibited at the Agricultural Shows as half-bred Arabs, show no Arab characteristics, although supposed to be got by the Government stallion, and the inference is, that the dams must have met other stallions in the veld after being taken home. There is no law in force in Basutoland to repress the practice of allowing entire horses to run at large, and there are hundreds of such horses in the Territory whose tendency is to spoil the breed rather than to improve it.

If the mares could be kept under supervision for ten days or a fortnight, it would improve their chance of foaling to the proper sires. One hundred and seventy mares visited the stallions standing at Mafeteng during last season (from August, 1907, to the end of February, 1908), so the suggested paddock should be of fair extent.

A thorough-bred stallion of good class (Imperator by Persimmon-Fine Lady by Isonomy) was purchased by the Government in November, 1907, and stood during the remainder of the season at Mafeteng. This horse is much liked by the Basuto, and good results are looked for from his services. His stock in the Orange River Colony show great promise.

Increasing attention is being paid by the Basuto to the dipping of sheep to eradicate scab. Several applications for fresh Dipping Stations are under consideration. There are at present four such stations in the district, all of which are doing good work. There are large numbers of fairly well-bred sheep in the country and the rams that are being supplied by the Government should do much to improve the quality of the wool.

Tree-planting has been at a standstill for some time, owing to want of funds. Young trees have been supplied for the Mohales Hoek Camp, and to various private individuals, during the year. An Officer from the Cape Forestry Department visited Mafeteng in March last, and made some useful suggestions as to the species of trees best suited to the soil and climate. He considered that the soil and general aspect of the Government Reserve here, were unsuitable for extensive plantations, and pointed out several places outside the limits of the Reserve which, if acquired by Government, and properly enclosed, might be expected to give good results.

Public Works.

The condition of the main roads has shown some improvement during the year, although much still remains to be done. It is desirable for the sake of trade, that more attention be devoted to the by-roads than has hitherto been practicable. Many of them are in a very unsatisfactory state. The waterworks could be improved by an additional reservoir of equal capacity with the present one. Besides the necessity of providing for increasing population, it is desirable that a supply of water should be kept in reserve for dry seasons. With only one reservoir, it is difficult to maintain the requisite supply for the Camp during the necessary process of occasionally cleaning the reservoir out.

Several suggested improvements have not been carried out this year, and it is hoped that these may shortly meet with attention.

S. Barrett,

Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—MOHALES HOEK DISTRICT, 1907-8.

The political situation in this district remains practically unaltered.

On 27th July Chief Raboroko died and was succeeded by his eldest son Letsema.

On the 30th September an official enquiry was held at Mafeteng by me, together with the Assistant Commissioner, Mafeteng, and

native assessors, sent by the Paramount Chief, regarding the request of Mokhele to remove Mokoroane, and to locate Monaro, younger brother of Mokhelenyane, in his place, so as to preserve the integrity of the Bataung ward, for which Mokhele is responsible. The opinion arrived at was that it was useless trying to settle the matter by a fine, and that, in view of the repeated misconduct of Mokoroane and his people, some fresh arrangement should be made to keep them in control. I regret that, up to the present time, no steps have been taken to enforce Mokhele's rights. On the contrary, Mokoroane has had his garden rights extended, which goes to show that there is no desire or intention to carry out the opinion expressed by the Court of Enquiry.

In November, owing to a land dispute, Chief Griffith led an armed body of his people against 'Masefabatho. Ninety-one head of cattle were captured but released by Griffith on application from 'Masefabatho. No blood was shed. On the 20th December, Chief Griffith was tried by His Honour, the Resident Commissioner, at Mafeteng, and fined fifty head of cattle for breach of the peace.

The locust campaign met with marked success. The chiefs and natives have not been slow to appreciate the self-evident benefit, and should there be a recurrence of this plague, with extended co-operation thus assured I feel certain that this year will show even better results.

Relations with adjacent territories are, as in former years, most satisfactory.

Stock theft is on the decrease, but there appears to be no diminution of illicit liquor smuggling. However, in this connection it is satisfactory to note that eighteen arrests have been effected and the offenders punished.

The wheat crop this year was distinctly above the average, but the mealie crop, through drought, may be considered a complete failure.

The distribution of rams purchased by Government, I trust, will lead to a better class of wool as well as to an improvement in the breed of sheep.

The new water supply has proved of great benefit, though several improvements are urgently needed to place on a satisfactory basis. (*Vide* Medical Officer's Report*.)

The increased grant for maintenance has been amply justified by the excellent condition of the roads.

No specific complaints have been received of wilful damage to the border fence by natives on this side. The question of general and permanent improvement is at the present time under consideration.

A bridge across the Cornet Spruit, as mentioned in my last report, would be most beneficial for the general traffic of this district, and would be of great assistance to commerce.

The contemplated improvement in hospital accommodation will meet a long-felt want.

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* See pages 40-41.

The annual Agricultural Show was held on 23rd May. The exhibits in cattle, sheep, and goats showed a marked improvement. Cereals, with the exception of mealies, were also good.

Owing to the illness of Chief Griffith, the collection of hut tax was materially delayed, but is now in excess of last year.

The general health of the camp has been most satisfactory.* I attach the report of Medical Officer.

J. W. Bowker,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—QUTHING DISTRICT, 1907-8.

I returned to the district towards the end of January last, after six months' leave of absence, and found the political situation in the same tranquil condition as reported by Mr. Jenner, who acted for me in my absence, in his annual report of last year.

This satisfactory state of affairs is undoubtedly due to the series of land and tribal disputes settled by His Honour the Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief's representatives in September, 1906, and to the subsequent measures taken locally to enforce the terms of the settlements.

There is a growing tendency on the part of natives to bring their cases to the European Courts in preference to the native ones. There is no doubt that the younger generation do not have the same dread of appealing against the judgment of the native chiefs as was observable some years ago.

Ordinary cases of crime, such as homicides, stock thefts, &c., appear to be on the decrease, but I regret to say that gun and brandy smuggling from the Cape Colony is more prevalent than ever. Certain hotel-keepers in the Cape Colony make enormous profits by illegally selling most inferior brandy to natives of Basutoland. Our natives also obtain considerable supplies from the natives in the Cape Colony who are on the list of registered voters,—these latter being allowed by the laws of the Cape Colony to buy as much brandy as they please. Besides impoverishing it to an enormous extent, this excessive brandy drinking is surely but steadily demoralising the nation.

No one knows this better than the native himself, but the comparative ease with which he can obtain it in the Cape Colony and his craving for it, render the temptation too great to be resisted.

Unscrupulous Europeans in the Cape Colony also do a thriving trade in selling rifles and ammunition to Basutoland natives. The general plan is for them to buy rifles at about thirty shillings each in the Cape Colony, and then to employ native runners to exchange or sell them in Basutoland. The usual price our natives pay for

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* See page 40.

such a rifle is fifteen pounds or a horse of equivalent value. The cartridges are sold at sixpence each.

During the year under review the police of this district arrested sixteen native brandy smugglers, two European and five native gun smugglers, but these undoubtedly only form a very minute proportion of the actual number of offenders. The reason of this is that, whereas native chiefs and headmen give every assistance in the detection of ordinary crime, they will seldom or never do anything, on their own initiative, to suppress brandy or gun smuggling—they themselves being probably the worst offenders.

The Government distributed fifteen thoroughbred Rambouillet rams in the district last year, and fifteen more have just been purchased for the same purpose. If this is done every year a great improvement in the sheep of the district will soon be noticed.

Twenty-one foals were born last year to the Arab stallion standing at this station. Thirty-five mares altogether were served. During the season just closed fifty-four mares were served.

As predicted in the annual report of last year, enormous swarms of locusts were hatched out in this district during the Spring. An energetic campaign against them was engineered and superintended by Mr. Jenner. So successful were the measures taken that it is estimated that every swarm was annihilated, by means of spraying, before the pests were able to reach the flying stage.

I think it would be advantageous to this territory if there was some legislation on record affecting contagious diseases among animals. The absence of this often causes considerable inconvenience and hardship to natives and traders of Basutoland. As an example of this I would mention that, under no circumstances, are sheep allowed to enter the Cape Colony from Basutoland, simply because there is no "Scab Act" in force here.

This is in spite of the fact that we have approved dipping tanks and experienced men to superintend them. Many native sheep-owners have approached me on this subject, and I believe that such legislation would be rather welcomed than resented.

The amount of hut tax collected still shows a steady increase. I think there are only forty-two defaulters in the district. These will doubtless pay when they have sold their grain.

I would again call attention to the pressing need of some sort of hospital accommodation at this station.

W. D. P. MANSEL,

Assistant Commissioner.

Quthing,

Basutoland.

30th June, 1908.

ANNUAL REPORT—QACHA'S NEK DISTRICT, 1907-8.

The inhabitants, consisting principally of Baphuthis, in the late Chief Leteba Sepere's Ward, are somewhat divided. Maoala, who was superseded by his cousin Mangange in 1904, still commands the largest following; fortunately the latter is a quiet sensible man and inclined to take matters quietly, otherwise there would be constant friction.

Chief Rafoletsane is most anxious to have a boundary line defined between his ward and Chief Hlakanelo's, as he considers his rights are being encroached upon. The settlement of this is under the consideration of Chief Letsie, who appears reluctant to adjudicate.

The long-standing dispute, alluded to in my two previous reports, between Ntaote and Chief Makhaola is still in existence. In August last the Paramount Chief sent up Mohau and Ramosoeu to mark out a garden for Ntaote; they greatly exceeded their instructions and gave him a large tract of country. Chief Tsepinare represented the Government. The judgment has not been confirmed, though promises have been made repeatedly by Chief Letsie that he would himself come or send his councillors to rectify this matter.

In Mpiti's Ward, the sons of the Chief Mokatsanyane and Nokonyana are always disputing. Nokonyana is the youngest, and was placed about a year ago under the charge of his eldest brother; he now resents this and wishes to become quite independent. The Chiefs have the matter in hand.

The guards on the Natal border, to protect this country from the invasion of East Coast fever, have been augmented during the year. They now number 82, guarding about 35 passes by which cattle could be smuggled in. The larger ones are being fenced, the majority of them are roughly 50 yards wide and under. Where possible, they are blocked by dynamite; others are having excavations made across them at the narrowest points near the summit. The trenches are about 6 feet to 10 feet deep and wide, and in some defiles they are hewn out of solid rock. Our border on Natal is about 150 miles long, and the country near is uninhabited and very mountainous. The physical and meteorological conditions may prove a safeguard, the altitude ranging from 8,000 to 12,000 feet above sea level.

It was found impossible to obtain labourers from the district, consequently, a well-known resident of Polela District, Natal, who is acquainted with the border has been engaged to superintend the work of blocking the passes with over 50 natives and two European overseers. No one unacquainted with the region can conceive the difficulties that have to be overcome; there are no roads in Natal within six to ten miles, and everything has, therefore, to be carried by pack animals or carriers to the scene of operations. Attempts were made by the Natal Government, during the outbreak of rinderpest in 1896-7, to barricade these passages but the work proved to be ineffective.

With a view to obtain the co-operation of all Chiefs and people, a few representatives were recently taken to Natal to demonstrate to them the ravages and misery that has so far been caused by the plague.

Unjust accusations are frequently being made against the Basutos by neighbouring farmers' associations, &c., when any stock is lost. At a meeting recently held in East Griqualand, a resolution was passed to approach the Cape Government for better police protection for districts bordering on Basutoland, as 1,500 sheep had disappeared. In all instances when stock have been traced to this district they have been recovered.

A death, involved in mystery, occurred in Hlakanelo's Ward during last October, of a middle-aged Mosuto, named Kose. His corpse was discovered near a small stream some distance beyond a little krantz, divested of all European clothing which he possessed, as it was all found scattered near by. The deceased was returning home from a beer drink. Two persons were arrested, tried for the murder, and acquitted.

Last spring locusts hatched out in Chiefs Sekake's and Mpiti's Wards and did enormous damage to the young crops; steps were taken to exterminate them but not very successfully, as the natives objected to the use of arsenic. Directly the locusts were full grown, they disappeared.

Twenty-five Rambouillet rams have recently been purchased, and will be distributed amongst those who render assistance in the eradication of burr-weed.

The Arab stud horse "Azim" was sold last December, owing to his age; "Viceroy," from Quthing, has replaced him.

Diseases of quarter-evil and "three days' sickness" have been prevalent amongst cattle since January; large numbers of young stock have succumbed to the former, which is becoming fairly general and needs attention. The latter, a new epidemic in these parts, did little or no damage during the summer, but there has been mortality lately.

The wheat crop has been fairly good this season, but mealies and Kaffir corn have been a complete failure. This is often the case in this district, as we are subjected to such early frosts.

A sheep dip is in course of construction, and should be completed shortly.

A small water scheme has been established this year, but has not given much satisfaction, as the pump we are dependent on to raise the water to a higher elevation often breaks down.

The revenue shows an increase of £601 10*s.* over last year's, more than half of which is accounted for by Hut Tax. Tax was paid on 4,292 huts. Arrear tax amounts to £149.

Two police officers have been sent to this district to assist in the extra work that has been entailed by having special guards along the Natal border; one is stationed at Mokhotlong, the other in the vicinity of Sane Pass.

E. D'U. Blyth,
Assistant Commissioner.

'Qacha's Nek,
30th June, 1908.

REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER, 1907-8.

Statistical.

The following table shows the number of patients treated during the year. It shows an increase over the previous year, notably as regards in-patients:—

Station.	New Cases.	Subsequent attendances.	In-patients.
Mohales Hoek	2,992	515	106
Leribe	5,273	710	222
Mafeteng	7,946	1,647	60
Maseru	7,992	1,725	462
Total	24,203	4,597	850

Analysis of In-Patients.

Male.	Female.	Cured.	Relieved.	No relief.	Died.	Total.
434	416	595	171	42	42	850

Vaccination.

On the 1st of May the system hitherto in vogue of insisting that all natives leaving the Territory should obtain a certificate of vaccination before being granted a pass, ceased.

Arrangements have since been made to ensure, firstly, the vaccination of all natives living on the reserves and in neighbouring villages, and, secondly, those in the remoter districts.

Up to the time of writing about 20,000 vaccinations have been performed.

Hospitals.

The new hospital at Leribe was opened in December, 1907, and under the energetic administration of Dr. MacFarlane is proving a great boon to the district. I inspected the institution in April last. The building itself reflects great credit on the Public Works Department, the workmanship being superior to anything yet seen in the Territory. The matron, Miss Brizzell, who had formerly worked as nursing sister at the Maseru Hospital, has organised the internal arrangements with great success.

The new hospital at Mafeteng has been designed, and will be ready for occupation in July, 1909.

Arrangements have been made for providing accommodation for a few in-patients at Quthing, and I trust that soon the claims of Mohales Hoek for proper hospital accommodation will be considered.

Sanitation and Public Health.

A draft "Public Health and Medical and Pharmacy Ordinance" has been drawn up, and is still under consideration.

Many political difficulties stand in the way of the enforcement of any hard and fast laws in relation to sanitation. As I have stated in previous reports, a beginning might, however, be made on the Government reserves where the above-mentioned difficulties do not obtain.

I am informed by the Assistant Commissioner, Maseru, that the better class natives on his reserve would welcome sanitary regulations, and that there would be no insuperable difficulty in enforcing fees to defray part of the cost of sanitary administration. The native is not slow to recognise the importance of sanitation and hygiene in relation to public health. A course of lectures on this subject now forms a regular part of the curriculum of the vacation course for teachers. During the past year I have received gratifying evidence that the lessons taught in these lectures are bearing good fruit.

There is, I consider, urgent need for the introduction of a Medical and Pharmacy Act. There are Europeans holding trading licences in the country who not only sell patent medicines, but, although entirely untrained, undertake to diagnose and treat cases of serious illness. It would not be difficult to trace disastrous consequences to such dishonest proceedings, to which, in the absence of any law regulating medical practice, there is no check.

Financial reasons preclude the placing of Government medical officers within reach of natives living in remote parts of Basutoland. To meet the needs of such natives it might, however, be feasible to create a class of partially qualified natives on the lines of the native hospital assistants controlled by the Indian Medical Service. Now that all stations are within measurable distance of being equipped with proper hospitals it should be possible to train one or more suitable candidates for such service on each station. If they succeeded in passing an adequate examination they could be licensed to practise among natives only, and they would then be placed at suitable centres under the control of the Medical Department, to which they would be responsible.

Water Supply.

The supply at most stations is adequate and good. The defect referred to by Dr. Nattle in connection with the Mohales Hoek supply is already under consideration of the Public Works Department, and means for preventing contamination have been devised.

The Maseru supply is still inadequate.

Public Health.

The general health of the Territory has been good, and there have been no epidemics of any serious disease.

I regret, however, to state that several cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis have occurred during the year. The first observed case was that of a native from Johannesburg, where the disease has been endemic for some time.

The high standard of health among the police and in the gaols has been maintained.

Statistics concerning leprosy have been embodied in a separate report.

As soon as the Medical Department is thoroughly organised I propose to make an exhaustive inquiry into this subject. As such an inquiry would entail frequent absences from the station it cannot be undertaken until the Assistant Medical Officer, already sanctioned, for Maseru, has been appointed.

Edw. C. Long,
Principal Medical Officer.

Further Investigations into the subject of Leprosy in Basutoland, being an Appendix to the Report to the Colonial Office in 1904.

The figures dealt with in this report refer to the years 1904-8, a period of four years, during which four cases of leprosy observed by the medical officers have been recorded.

The report should not be taken to represent a complete review of all cases of leprosy existing in the Territory at the present moment. The time and opportunities at the disposal of the medical staff have not permitted an exhaustive enquiry to be made. Lepers are scattered far and wide throughout the country, and nothing short of a prolonged tour through the remoter districts would suffice to ensure every case being recorded. On previous occasions difficulty was experienced in tracing cases of leprosy, many of which were concealed, partly from ignorance, and partly from fear lest something untoward should happen to them if they came under observation. These difficulties only exist now in a minor degree. The Chiefs have readily co-operated in tracing lepers living in their wards. The contagious nature of the disease and the necessity for its segregation are becoming recognised, and efforts to isolate cases are being made by the people themselves. In 1904 the known number of lepers was 181. One hundred and ninety-two have since been observed, and I should estimate that 150 more are in existence. Of the 192 cases recorded since 1904, 137 were already suffering from leprosy prior to that date, and only recently came under observation; in 55 cases the disease was first observed at some date during the period under review, or an average incidence of 14 fresh cases per annum.

The age incidence approximates to that previously observed. (Compare Table A with similar table in previous report.)

TABLE A.

Years ...	1–10.	10–20.	20–30.	30–40	40–50.	50–60.	60 and over.	Total.
Number	1	19	36	47	33	34	22	192

The evidence against the influence of heredity also agrees with that obtained before. In only 19 cases was the mother leprous, in 15 the father leprous, and in seven both parents. In the majority of these instances leprosy manifested itself in parents after the birth of the children.

Additional evidence against the hereditary nature of the disease is adduced by the fact that in the families included in the 192 cases above referred to there were in all 570 children, of whom only 22 had been or are lepers.

I find, however, corroborative evidence in favour of the contagiousness of leprosy. In 104 cases there was evidence of more or less close association with lepers, either through collateral branches of the family or through other cases of leprosy existing in the same villages.

The commonest type of the disease was the mixed variety. Severe cases of mutilation were observed in old-standing cases. In the absence of any registration of deaths and births no trustworthy statistics of the mortality from the disease are available. Of the cases recorded in 1904, 20 are known to have died. The balance added to the cases referred to in this report, together with the 150 additional cases assumed to exist, give a total of 503 lepers in a population of 347,731, or approximately one per 700 of the inhabitants.

That the disease is but slowly increasing, may, I think, be assumed. The increase is not sufficiently rapid to give great cause for alarm. The recognition by the people of the gravity of leprosy and their willingness to segregate lepers is a hopeful augury for the future. Under existing conditions no drastic measures in this direction are possible or advisable. Once the Chiefs and the people as a nation are convinced of the necessity for segregation, all difficulties in dealing with the disease will disappear. One danger lies in the non-recognition of early cases.

Judging, however, by the shrewdness and accuracy displayed by the Basuto in diagnosing syphilis, even in mild cases, I think that, as knowledge of leprosy and its dangers spreads amongst the people, they will be quick to recognise and report early cases. In the meantime the gradual perfection of the present system of recording known cases will enable the Government at any time to gauge the extent of the disease and afford assistance in any future preventive measures which may be deemed necessary.

EDW. C. LONG,
Principal Medical Officer.

LERIBE MEDICAL REPORT, 1907-8.

The following table shows the attendance at the Dispensary and the number of patients treated in the Hospital for the year ending 30th June, 1908:—

Out-patients—first attendances	5,278
,, subsequent attendances ...	710
In-patients	222
Total ...	6,210

These figures indicate an increase of 468 in the out-patients and 76 in the hospital patients over the previous year.

The new hospital was opened on December 4th, and since that date all the beds have been fully occupied; and for some months past we have had to refuse admittance to many cases for want of room. This shows that the natives are fully alive to the benefits of the institution, and that it is fulfilling a long-felt want. Since the opening day 161 patients have been taken in, which works out at a little over 23 per month.

One hundred and twenty operations were performed during the year, and a general anæsthetic administered 102 times.

The general health of the district has been good on the whole, and, with the exception of whooping-cough, there has been no epidemic of infectious disease.

Diseases of the alimentary system are still very common, and, as I have pointed out before, they will continue until the Basuto have corrected their errors in diet and have found out that it is better to eat to live than to live to eat.

In this district venereal disease is increasing very much, and in course of time is bound to influence adversely the general health and well-being of the people. Much of the increase is due to ignorance of the virulence and far-reaching effects of such disease; but I am afraid immorality and loose living have much to answer for.

Women are the worst sufferers, in most cases innocently, and as a consequence their *potentia gignendi* is impaired. I have been struck by the number of barren women, and the mothers of one child only, who come to the dispensary for advice, but considering the prevalence of venereal disease, it is not to be wondered at.

Five new cases of leprosy were registered during the year, and two deaths were reported to me.

The health of the police detachment and the prisoners has been excellent.

One vaccination was performed during the year. It is proposed during the next few months to restart vaccination throughout the district.

The rainfall for the year was 36·01 inches, as compared with 48·34 inches for last year. A full meteorological report of the first order station in this district and the other climatological stations throughout the territory is in course of preparation.

N. M. MacFarlane,
Medical Officer.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT—MAFETENG.

Mafeteng,
30th June, 1908.

During the year ending June 30th, 1908, 9,593 out-patients attended at the Government Hospital; 7,946 were first attendances and 1,647 came for further treatment; these figures show an increase of 1,944 on last year.

Sixty cases were detained in the hospital. Of these, five died, the cause of death being pneumonia in two cases, enteric fever, burn, cardiac failure after influenza.

Fifty-two operations were performed. 4,742 vaccination certificates were issued up to the middle of the month of May, when compulsory vaccination for natives entering other territories was stopped.

There has been one report of an outbreak of small-pox since, but on examination it was found to be incorrect.

During the year there was quite a large epidemic of whooping-cough. Dietary errors, as usual, account for a large percentage of cases treated.

Venereal disease shows no signs of decreasing, no doubt because the gravity of the nature of the disease does not appeal to the native.

The health of the camp has been good, as also has that of the prisoners in the gaol.

The need for a hospital for the satisfactory treatment of serious cases is as urgent as ever, and one hopes the day is not far distant when such a building will be erected.

H. R. F. Nattle,
Medical Officer.

MEDICAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE, 1908, OF THE MOHALES HOEK DISTRICT.

The attendances, as compared with those of the previous year, were as follows:—

——	1906–7.	1907–8.	Increase.	Decrease.
Out-patients—				
(*a*) First attendances ...	2,190	2,992	802	—
(*b*) Subsequent attendances	326	515	189	—
In-patients	70	106	36	—
Vaccinations paid	2,504	2,667	—	37
Totals	5,090	6,080	1,027	37

Vaccination was discontinued after May 13th last, this accounting for the decrease in number of vaccinations performed.

The number of out and in-patients treated shows a large increase.

The health of the police, prisoners, and the camp population has been excellent.

There have been no epidemics of serious disease in the district.

The new water supply provides an ample quantity for all purposes, as far as one can judge. No steps have yet been taken to prevent contamination at the intakes, the necessity of which has been pointed out. This matter requires immediate attention, or an epidemic of some water-borne disease is very likely to occur.

It is to be hoped that during the coming year something will be done here in the matter of providing suitable hospital facilities for this district at least, if not for the whole of south Basutoland.

The number of in-patients—one half tent accommodated—increases yearly.

The inadequacy and unsuitability for hospital purposes of the buildings provided is well known. They are also incapable of being converted into anything at all suitable, even if they were worth converting.

That they are not worth any extensive repairs is shown by a report of the Inspector of Works.

If, for purpose of hospital distribution, Basutoland be divided into thirds, a glance at the map will show that the hospitals at Maseru and Leribe are conveniently placed for serving the needs of central and northern Basutoland; so also a hospital at Mohales Hoek would be centrally situated to serve the needs of the south.

The southern third is composed of the Quthing and Mohales Hoek districts, the southern half of Mafeteng district—the northern half of Mafeteng district falling within the central division of Basutoland—and a part of Qachas Nek district.

The population of this area amounts to, roughly, 115,000, *i.e.*, about one-third of the entire population of the country, so that from this point of view a hospital is justified.

The question of utility need not be argued; the amount of the population warrants the erection of a hospital, and the advantages of Mohales Hoek as a convenient centre for the south are obvious.

If it is intended to provide each station in the south with small hospitals, and not a central institution for the entire area, a commencement with such a scheme should certainly be made here, as the central situation of this station—before referred to—ensures the greatest convenience to the greatest number until such time as each station is similarly supplied.

The question of size, structure, and equipment need not be discussed here.

H. R. F. NATTLE, pro

W. R. NATTLE,

Medical Officer (absent on leave).

REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF EDUCATION.

Education Department,

Basutoland,

Maseru,

July 30th, 1908.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit the following report upon education in Basutoland.

I commenced duty in August, 1907, and since this time I have inspected schools in each of the six Magisterial Districts. Though time has not permitted me to visit every school in the territory, it has been sufficient to enable me to see each of the different types of elementary schools, varying from the large and well-staffed school in the centres of population to the little open-air school in the mountains.

Considering the isolation of so many of these schools, one can hardly fail to be struck by the efficiency of the system which the missionaries, especially those of the Paris Evangelical Missionary Society, have evolved. Certainly it is hard to conceive a system of elementary education more economical than the present one. It has grown with the requirements of the country, and it has thereby escaped the danger which a ready-made system adapted from some other country would have involved—the danger of becoming crystallised, lifeless, and incapable of expansion.

With comparatively small resources the missionaries have spread over the country a large number of schools, extending to the most out-of-the-way parts.

By their fostering the teaching of Sesuto, and by their support of these smaller schools, they have kept education in touch with the people, with the result that its civilizing influence has been widely diffused. Instead of producing a few highly-educated natives, who have left the bulk of their people far behind them, the system has resulted in the steady advancement of the tribe as a whole.

Though there may be much to condemn, from a strictly scholastic point of view, in the manner in which instruction is given in the smaller schools, it should be remembered that it is hardly fair to judge their work on the basis of school instruction alone. Often the village school is doing as useful a work as the large school with its better equipment.

The educational inferiority of the smaller schools will be noticed frequently in the detailed reports, but while this inferiority is noticed, two important considerations should be borne in mind:—

(1.) The difficulties under which the smaller schools carry on their work.

(2.) The fact that these schools form centres of civilization in the out-of-the-way parts of the country; the native who lives nearer the centre obtains a certain amount of civilization whether he attends school or not, whereas in the mountain districts the school and the church are almost the only means to enable him to participate in the general advance which is being made.

Mr. Sargant,* in his report for 1906, which will probably be a monument for all time in the history of education in Basutoland, has described very fully the organization and the working of the present system. Up to the present it has not been possible to make any considerable changes in that system, so that it will not be necessary for me to deal further in this report with that side of the subject.

Teachers and their Qualifications.

This branch of the subject naturally occurs to me first because the value of any educational system depends chiefly upon the ability of the teachers. Good teachers can produce good work even under a bad system, but no system, even if it is perfect in its conception, can work satisfactorily if the teachers are deficient. A system exists only on paper till it is put in practice in the schools, and if the one whose duty it is to give practical expression to the ideas contained in this system is unable to do so, such a system can only be said to exist in idea and not in reality. The interpreter of the system must in the last resort be the teacher. Inspection may do much to guide teachers and to encourage them in their work, but it cannot be expected to convert an untrained worker into a properly qualified teacher. That

* *See* Colonial Report—Miscellaneous, No. 52.

work can only be done at the training institutions, and it is a matter for regret that so many teachers in Basutoland have had to commence their teaching career without any previous training.

Though their qualifications are low, the greater majority make up to some extent for this want by the energy and conscientiousness with which they perform their duties. I have visited many schools at times when I was not expected, and have always found the work proceeding with as much industry as if a visit were expected. Judging from what one sees, as one passes a school on a journey, the teachers by no means grudge spending extra time daily on their classes.

Of the teachers I saw, there were very few who appeared to look upon teaching merely as a means of earning a livelihood; most of them have a keen appreciation of the worthiness of their work and a strong sense of their responsibility to the tribe in regard to education.

In several cases I met with teachers who, by dint of perseverance, had increased their natural ability for teaching to such an extent as to be the superiors of many trained teachers, but this can only be expected in a few instances. The improvement of the general average of teaching ability can only be done on a large scale at the training institutions. The annual vacation courses have done a considerable amount of good, but they can only be looked upon as being supplementary to the regular course of training.

Discipline.

Discipline throughout the elementary schools is extremely good. Native children are extraordinarily patient and anxious to learn, and the teachers' work is for this reason very much lighter. I saw hardly any instances of harshness of manner on the part of the teacher, and absolutely no instance of unreadiness on the part of the children to obey the orders or even the wishes of the teacher.

Buildings and Furniture.

In a few cases the buildings were insufficiently lighted and ventilated, and in these instances steps were being taken to improve the building or to move the school to new quarters. As school is usually held in the church, the building is roomy enough, but there is frequently insufficient space for desks. I do not think it is at present possible to have desks in all classes, nor is it necessary. It is hardly worth while suggesting additions to the present school furniture and materials till the teachers understand how to make use of what appliances schools already possess.

By far the most important requisite of a teacher is a blackboard and its accessories. Most schools are well supplied with these, but in very few are they used to the best advantage. In many schools they are evidently never used at all.

The teaching of letters should be taken almost entirely on the blackboard, for it is only when the teacher points out the letter

on the board that he can be sure that the whole class is attending to the same letter. In the usual way the children point to the letter in their books, and one frequently sees a child pointing to the wrong letter and calling out with the rest of the class the name of the letter to which the others are pointing. One would hardly believe how much time can be spent in learning the alphabet by a child who simply points to his book and calls out what the others are saying regardless of what he himself is pointing at.

Some teachers try to obviate this by the use of boldly-printed cards, but the disadvantage of this method is that children become so well acquainted with them that they can memorise the words or letters by their position on the card.

An immense stride forward will be made when teachers learn the use of the blackboard, especially in the lower classes.

Subjects of Instruction.

Sesuto.—It is taken for granted in many schools that a child knows Sesuto when he can get through a passage in the Sesuto reading book. When one reflects on the time which is spent in an English school on the teaching of English and the vast difference there is between one man's knowledge of his language and another man's knowledge, one sees the fallacy of supposing that the reading of his language is the ultimate limit to which it is desirable that a pupil should attain. In reading itself there are various degrees of proficiency; it is one thing to stumble painfully through a passage and another thing to read with ease, fluency, and complete understanding.

For a man to take pleasure in reading and to buy books for the enjoyment he obtains from them, this latter standard of reading is necessary; yet in few schools is there any attempt to bring pupils up to this level. It is a thing quite easy to accomplish, and once this were done a great impulse would be given to Sesuto literature. That the great bulk of the people will be able to read English with understanding is out of the question, and their future educational development depends chiefly upon their possessing translations of their own Sesuto literature. The existence of such literature is only possible when the publishers find a sufficiently large circle of readers of Sesuto, and it is the first duty of the schools to create such a reading public.

Sesuto composition is entirely neglected in many of the schools. Apart from the advantage of being able to express oneself in writing, there are few subjects equal to composition in providing excellent mental discipline. To write an essay on a given subject demands in the first place the giving a definite shape to the more or less vague ideas which fill the mind, and in the second place the arranging of one's thoughts in logical sequence. Strange to say, this valuable exercise is neglected, and the pupil's first introduction to anything of this kind is when he is called upon in the English lesson to write down from memory a story which has been read to him twice. Unfortunately this is not the only subject of instruction which, though providing an excellent

form of mental gymnastic, has been developed by the perverted ingenuity of schoolmasters into merely another means of exercising the memory.

English.—Too much value is set upon the mere ability to pronounce more or less correctly the sentences occurring in the reading books without the least regard for their meaning. As an accomplishment, this is almost useless. The pupil has learnt nothing until he is able to translate what he is reading into his own language.

In some schools the English language is taught orally by conversation lessons, with excellent results, but where the teacher's command of the language is insufficient for this, good work can be done by oral and written translation of Sesuto into English and *vice versâ*.

Arithmetic.—As in Sesuto composition, the educational value of this subject is rarely realised. Some teachers have made praiseworthy attempts to connect arithmetic with the real things of life, but in many cases arithmetic has become merely an affair of the memory. Practical mental arithmetic, such as the pupils would meet with in the stores, for example, is only taught in a few instances, and it is possible to find a class able to work correctly huge sums of weights and measures but unable to say what change one should receive from a small sum of money.

In too many instances the below-standard children are entrusted to the least efficient teacher, or are neglected for the sake of the few children in the standards, with the result that no intelligent idea of number is ever formed by them. The children learn to count, and are then introduced into the mysteries of vast addition sums, and upon this insecure foundation their future knowledge of arithmetic is based.

An attempt was made during the last vacation course to show teachers how the rudiments of arithmetic should be taught, and even in a short course of this work the teachers learned much.

In many schools one sees women teachers in charge of the lower classes, and in some cases they seem to show more natural aptitude than the men. If some scheme could be devised by which girls, say of the third or fourth standard, could be given six months' instruction in the phonetic method of teaching reading and in a rational method of teaching the elements of arithmetic a large body of teachers would be created who could lay a secure foundation for the work in the standards.

Manual Training and other Subjects.

Of the other subjects of instruction it is hardly necessary to say much, for, with the exception of singing, very little is attempted with success except at the large schools. With regard to manual work, sewing is very successfully taught at a good many centres. Native children have much natural aptitude for this work and appear to take great pleasure in it, but in many cases they seem to get very little encouragement from their parents in the way of the necessary materials.

With boys, the question of manual training is more difficult. The cheapness of articles imported into this country and the dearness of the raw materials afford little encouragement to the one who makes things for himself. After all his trouble he finds that he could have bought a better-looking article from the store for less money than he paid for the materials out of which he laboriously fashioned the article of his own make, and the native is too practical to allow ideas of sentiment to outweigh the difference in cost. In some parishes missionaries are anxious to start classes in carpentry, &c., and are willing to devote considerable time to the supervision of these classes, and in these cases a grant of money to buy tools should be made so that they may be enabled to begin.

Even if the experiments do not succeed in every case, I do not think that it will be a waste of money, for it is only by such experiments that the problem—one of the most important in native or any other education—will find its ultimate solution.

Institutions.

With regard to elementary education, one can say roundly that its present state is healthy and that its future is hopeful; but with regard to institutions the events of the past year make one pause before including them in the same statement. The fact that there should have been two outbreaks—one at the Morija Training Institution and one at the Government Industrial School—taken by itself tends to show that there is something amiss in the present system of higher education.

One is at a loss to know why discipline, which is so easy in the elementary schools, becomes such a hard matter in the higher ones. Without attaching undue importance to the recent occurrences, it would seem that there are certain causes which in the nature of things render discipline in institutions more difficult to maintain.

First among the causes is the advanced age at which these pupils pursue their studies. The thing which is a mere wandering from the path of rectitude on the part of a child becomes a grave offence when committed by a full-grown man; for instance, copying on the part of a child is almost a natural error, and is easily checked, but what is to be done when a man old enough to be the father of a family is found copying? This first cause will be remedied when more attention is paid to the children below standards, and when the average age of a class is more near to the age for which the work of that standard is intended.

The second cause is also one which will disappear in time when elementary education is more widely spread.

At the present time the pupil of an institution is a schoolboy when compared to his master; when he compares himself to the natives he sees around him, he is an educated man. In the first capacity he commits offences, but he appears in the second capacity when he is called upon to undergo the penalty of his wrong doing.

When education has spread more widely among the people, the idea that because a boy is in Standard VI. he has rights exceeding those of the ordinary pupil, will gradually disappear, and a more sane view of education be accepted.

There is a danger that the previously mentioned disturbances may be taken too seriously. They are not unknown in other places where those between the age of boyhood and manhood receive instruction, and the occasional kicking over the traces at that age is not confined to natives alone.

With regard to the general statistics for education, which are appended, it will be noticed that there is a slight falling off in the number of those in attendance at schools, but this is to be accounted for to some extent by the fact that a new and more accurate system of registration has been introduced.

Under the previous system numbers of children who had left appeared on the roll. This, while increasing the number apparently on the roll, made the percentage of attendance to appear lower than it really was. The present statistics approach more nearly to accuracy.

I hope next year to be able to present fuller statistics.

	1906-7.	1907-8.
Expenditure	£14,000 16 11	£11,962 1 4
Schools	246	241
Scholars	12,275	11,680
Average attendance ...	9,454	9,249

I have, &c.,

F. H. DUTTON,

Inspector of Education,
Basutoland.

His Honour
The Resident Commissioner,
Maseru, Basutoland.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, MASERU, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1908.

1. During the past year, all the buildings, as outlined in the original scheme, have been completed.

2. There are the following school buildings standing in the school grounds:—

Dining Hall;
Schoolroom;
Two dormitories;

Four workshops;
House for the Director;
Five houses for European Instructors; and
Two houses for Native Instructors.

3. The school is thoroughly well equipped, and should prove of lasting benefit to the Basuto. Pupils after spending four years at the school, and passing through any of the various departments, should prove useful and efficient workmen in their various trades, and should be fitted not only to exercise the trade in their own country but also to go out to the various parts of South Africa and do their share in the development of the country.

4. In July, a threshing machine was purchased by the Government and handed over to the school, to be worked for the benefit of the natives. The threshing machine was sent out in February under the charge of a European with pupils of the school; it was most popular amongst the natives, but, owing to the smallness of the wheat crop, did not do as much work as was anticipated; about 1,500 bags were put through the machine. In the coming year there is every prospect of a very large wheat crop, and the machine will be in great demand. It might, in the future, be advisable to have one or two other Government machines in the country, and the school, it is hoped, will be able to provide natives to take entire charge of them.

5. The small "Inkoos" mill, in connection with the Engineer's Department, has been most popular among the natives, and has earned during the year £100; it has proved quite inadequate for the work, the output being very small per hour; a larger plant, capable of four times the output would only require the same attention, and would be a source of greater revenue to the school. I trust that during the coming year a milling plant, capable of turning out the best roller meal, may be erected; it will prove of great benefit to the Europeans and natives of Maseru, and will enable the natives to get a better price for their grain, as the traders in the place will be able to get their wheat ground locally, and export meal instead of whole grain.

6. The Engineer's Department is one that is specially important. So many farmers in South Africa wish to go in for machinery either for irrigation purposes or small mills, but are prevented from doing so by the high wages which have to be paid to European artisans. If the school can turn out pupils who would be capable of looking after these small works where it is not necessary to have such skilled workmanship, it will be conferring a great benefit on the farming community. That natives can do the work is proved from the fact that at Port Elizabeth and East London, in nearly all the large workshops, a native is left in charge of the engine supplying motor power.

7. The health of the pupils through the year has been good, and it is due, in a large measure, to the excellent sleeping accommodation provided; the dormitories are large and airy, plenty of ventilation, the floor is of flagstone, and each dormitory is flushed out with water and disinfectant every week.

8. At the end of June, 1907, there were 56 pupils on the roll; two pupils did not return in July, and three new were admitted, making on the roll 57 pupils, distributed as follows:—

Carpenters	12
Blacksmiths	9
Engineers	7
Waggon makers	10
Builders	19

In October there was a rebellion which has already formed the subject of a report, dated November 13th, 1907; 45 boys were expelled, and this left the school with 12 boys on the roll. In January, 1908, 12 new pupils were admitted, making the number of pupils 24. Six new pupils are expected in July. An effort has been made to get pupils between the ages of 16 and 18, as they are then much more amenable to discipline; the discipline of the school to men of the average age of 23 or 24 must prove irksome, and it is to be expected that they will kick over the traces at the first opportunity.

9. During the year the pupils have been employed on various works for the school, the Government, and the general public. Eight Scotch carts were built for the Public Works Department, small contracts for the erection of buildings for the Government were undertaken, and the Engineers' Department has been employed in pumping water for the use of the Central South African Railways, the maintenance of the Maseru water supply, threshing and general milling.

10. The value of work done in each department during the year is:—

Carpenters' Department	£1,406	16	5
Builders' ,, ...	491	10	6
Smiths' ,, ...	411	16	9
Waggon ,, ...	431	15	1
Engineers' ,, ...	718	6	8
	£3,759	9	5

Last year the work completed was £4,605 14*s.* 3*d.* This year shows that the school suffered through the expulsion of the pupils in October.

11. In January the school buildings were again used for the Native Teachers' Vacation Course.

12. There have been some changes in the staff during the past year; Miss Rhind, the Matron, left in February to take up nursing at the Kimberley Hospital, and her place has been filled by the appointment of Mrs. Rhind, the wife of one of the Instructors. Mr. W. B. Barnett, the Instructor of the Engineers' Department, left in February, and Mr. R. C. Robson, of Messrs. Mellett & Co., Engineers, East London, filled the vacancy.

13. The conduct of the pupils, with the exception of the incident of the rebellion, has been good.

The progress in many cases is remarkable, some of the pupils proving themselves most careful and painstaking. Some of the boys expelled from the school have gone away to work and are now earning 4*s.* and 5*s.* per diem; this applies especially to the pupils in the Masonry Department. One of the pupils in the Engineers' Department who was expelled has been working at De Beer's Mine, Kimberley, as fireman, and was drawing £5 per month wages. The boy must have proved to the foreman in charge of the shop that he was capable, for an ordinary native fireman would not have drawn such wages as £5 per month. This boy had only been at school 18 months. It is to be hoped that the pupils will not get tired of their work (as natives mostly do) and leave the school before the completion of their four years. A scheme is being considered whereby each pupil will receive small wages as pocket money, according to the progress he makes in his work each half-year. The native does not look at things in the European light, and, consequently, he feels that when he has learnt a very little at school, it is better for him to go out and earn 3*s.* or 4*s.* per diem than to stay at school and finish his time without earning any money. He does not grasp the fact that if he completes his time he will become a more proficient workman, and thus be enabled to earn higher wages. The system of pocket money, under consideration, will be an inducement to the pupils to finish their time, and will make them feel that they are doing something to clothe themselves.

14. The future prosperity of the school, from the financial aspect depends very largely upon the amount of work the Government is able to give us; as all the school buildings have been completed, it will become a difficulty to find work for the pupils, unless we get contracts from the Government or private individuals. The European community being a very small one, the school cannot get very much work from them, and it is forced to depend very largely upon Government work; it is, of course, possible to keep the pupils employed, but unless we get a market for the goods made or stone cut, we shall get an enormous stock on hand which will be practically unsaleable, and as there will be very little revenue coming in, the school will become a heavy charge annually upon the Government. Many institutions of a similar kind, in other parts of South Africa, have a difficulty in keeping the pupils employed on lucrative work. From an educational point of view, it is far better for the pupils to be employed on large works than to be making useless small articles in the shops.

15. I have again to thank the staff, European and native, for the support they have given me in maintaining discipline under very trying circumstances during the rebellion.

NELSON W. FOGARTY,
Director.

Maseru,
June 30th, 1908.

High Commissioner's Office,
Johannesburg,
November 16th, 1908.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of October 30th, covering the Annual Reports on the Territory of Basutoland for the year 1907-8.

2. I have read the reports with interest, and desire to convey to you my appreciation of the work accomplished during the past financial year.

I have, &c.,

SELBORNE,
High Commissioner.

The Resident Commissioner of
Basutoland, Maseru.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
558	Uganda Protectorate	1906–1907
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907
561	Ceylon	"
562	Falkland Islands	"
563	Gibraltar	"
564	Ashanti	"
565	Colonial Survey Committee	1907–1908
566	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1907
567	Seychelles	"
568	Bermuda	"
569	Weihaiwei	"
570	Hong Kong	"
571	Malta	1907–1908
572	British Honduras	1907
573	Gold Coast	"
574	Nyasaland Protectorate	1907–1908
575	Bahamas	"
576	Gambia	1907
577	St. Vincent	1907–1908
578	Turks and Caicos Islands	1907
579	St. Lucia	"
580	Fiji	"
581	Mauritius	"
582	Straits Settlements	"
583	Southern Nigeria	"
584	Imperial Institute	1906–1907
585	Barbados	1907–1908
586	Somaliland Protectorate	"
587	Trinidad and Tobago	"
588	Sierra Leone	1907
589	British Guiana	1907–1908
590	Grenada	1907
591	Leeward Islands	1907–1908
592	East Africa Protectorate	"
593	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
594	Northern Nigeria	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
49	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies, &c.	Cotton cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907–8.
54	Newfoundland	Governor's visit to Micmac Indians.
55	Cape Colony	Rietfontein Area.
56	Turks Islands	Salt Industry.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 634.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORTS FOR 1908-9.

(For Reports for 1907–8, *see* No. 595.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

March, 1910.

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No. 634

BASUTOLAND.

(For Reports for 1907–8, *see* No. 595.)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

High Commissioner's Office,
Johannesburg,
December 20th, 1909.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to enclose a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland, forwarding the Annual Reports on that territory with the Blue Book for the year 1908-9, together with a copy of my reply.

I have, &c.,

SELBORNE,
High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Crewe, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Maseru,
October 30th, 1909.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Annual Report, by the Government Secretary, with the Blue Book for the year ended June 30th, 1909, together with Annual Reports by Officers in charge of Districts and Departments in Basutoland.

There has been a slight falling off in the amount of revenue collected both under the heads of Hut Tax and Customs Revenue. This has been due entirely to temporary causes, and there are already indications that the small deficiency in revenue will be more than made good during the present year.

The following Legislative Proclamations have been issued during the year under report:—

1. Proclamation 44. Amending Customs Law and Tariff.
2. Proclamation 48. Further East Coast Fever Regulations.

(15513—2.) Wt. 27349—387. 1125 & 85. 3/10. D & S. A 2

3. Proclamation 51. Restricting exportation of Angora rams and ewes from Basutoland.
4. Proclamation 60. Amending Pensions Proclamation No. 13 of 1908.
5. Proclamation 4. Amending Proclamation No. 60 of 1908.

The interest taken by the Basuto in the subject of the approaching Closer Union of the South African Colonies has been very keen. Early in the year the chiefs brought forward their request that they might be permitted to send a deputation to England to represent their views on the matter to the King and to His Majesty's Government. By permission of the High Commissioner, the Deputation, which consisted of the Chief Seiso and three other chiefs, with four interpreters and secretaries, left for England in January and spent three weeks in London, during which time, in addition to the sight-seeing and entertainment hospitably arranged by the Colonial Office, the chiefs had the honour of an interview with the King, and were more than once received by the Secretary of State in Downing Street.

While the Deputation was in England, the High Commissioner visited Basutoland and placed before the chiefs and people the outline of the proposed scheme of Closer Union, in so far as Basutoland is affected.

In the month of May, after the return of the Deputation, the prospect of the transfer of Basutoland to the Union Government and the conditions of such transfer were discussed at a meeting of the Basutoland Council, and the opinions and requests of the assembled chiefs and people were submitted in addresses which have been forwarded through the High Commissioner to the Secretary of State for consideration.

The attitude of the Basuto on this important question, as revealed by the instructions to the Deputation, and by the written addresses from the Council, is briefly, that while preferring the present administration by the Imperial Government, they recognise that their inclusion in United South Africa may be necessary, and they have petitioned that due provision be made for their protection and progress in any political changes that may be contemplated.

A memorable gathering took place in October at Morija, the Central Station of the Paris Evangelical Mission Society. The occasion was the celebration, after 75 years of work in Basutoland, of the Society's Jubilee. This gathering was attended by delegates from the Parent Society in Paris, and representatives from every Missionary body in South Africa, and was a remarkable exhibition of the interest taken in the great work which has been so long and successfully carried on by the Mission.

There is little to record as regards any change in the social condition of the people. The unfortunate propensity of many of the chiefs to indulge to excess in smuggled brandy, has formed the subject of several special reports. The district officers and police continue to be active in their efforts to suppress this

demoralising traffic, and during the year 86 prosecutions under the Liquor Regulations have taken place.*

The following important public works were completed during the year:—

New National Council Building.
New quarters for Assistant Commissioner, Maseru.
Veterinary Surgeon's new office.
Native accommodation sheds.
Hospital at Mafeteng.
Cottage hospital at Quthing.
Hutting for Police Camp, Maseru.
Hlotsi bridge.
New police stables, Leribe.

I have to place on record the good work performed by Mr. Wroughton, the Government Secretary, who acted as Resident Commissioner during my absence in England, and by the other officers and employés in the Government Service.

I have, &c.,

H. C. Sloley,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency
The Right Honourable
The Earl of Selborne, P.C., K.G., G.C.M.G.,
High Commissioner for South Africa.

THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1908-9.

Government Secretary's Office,
Maseru,
June 30th, 1909.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for your Honour's information, the Annual Blue Book for Basutoland, together with the Annual Reports by the Assistant Commissioners and the Officers in charge of the different Departments of the Administration. Returns for the territory are also included.

The year which has passed has been on the whole a successful one in nearly every respect. Its commencement, indeed, was disastrous, the whole of the northern districts wheat crop being completely destroyed by wheat lice.

Matters, however, mended before Christmas, and with the help of plentiful and continuous rains the maize and Kafir corn crops of 1908 have been exceptionally good. It was found last year that the Basuto, tempted by the good prices offered for maize,

* Colonial Office Note:—Since this Report was written, further legislation dealing with the illicit liquor traffic has been passed.

had greatly oversold their stocks, and so had to buy in again at a much higher rate later in the season, while waiting for the new crop.

Licences.

The following licences were issued during the year:—

District.	General Trader.	Hawker.		Mill.	Labour Agents.	Touts.	Game.
		Paid.	Free.				
Leribe	49	40	45	—	9	77	—
Berea	24	6	71	1	—	20	—
Maseru	28	11	141	2	18	244	5
Mafeteng ...	25	15	126	—	3	22	1
Mohales Hoek ...	17	44	39	—	—	7	—
Quthing... ...	14	21	7	—	—	10	—
Qacha's Nek ...	6	101	25	—	—	1	1
1908–9 ...	163	238	454	3	30	381	7
1907–8 ...	163	411	299	3	69	—	7

Passes.

Passes issued this year show a falling off of some 10,000 labourers and 17,000 visitors.

This shortage of labour, however, is almost entirely under the heads of "Farm and Domestic" and "Miscellaneous," and is accounted for by the fact that the ordinary native peasant farmer, who goes out to work in bad years, stayed at home in this plentiful year and farmed his fields.

It is interesting to note that there appears to be a regular class of natives who now make their living as miners in the Transvaal. In spite of the heavy falling off under most heads, the numbers who went to the Rand Mines in 1908-9 are almost exactly the same as in 1907-8.

Visiting Passes, 1908-9.

District.	Orange River Colony.	Cape Colony.	Natal.	Total.	1907–8.
Leribe	17,491	180	88	17,759	20,926
Berea	4,015	123	—	4,138	5,185
Maseru	6,993	571	—	7,564	7,644
Mafeteng	7,222	458	—	7,680	8,787
Mohales Hoek ...	1,322	828	3	2,153	2,772
Quthing	207	1,580	—	1,787	2,285
Qacha's Nek ...	3	2,549	90	2,642	3,864
Total	37,253	6,217	181	43,723	51,463

Labour Passes, 1908-9.

Year.	Orange River Colony.	Cape Colony.	Natal.	Transvaal.	Farm and Domestic.	Miscellaneous.	Railway Construction.	Total.
1908–9 ...	5,406	1,659	—	15,489	12,046	28,783	5,487	68,870
1907–8 ...	3,943	2,898	—	15,593	15,523	33,948	6,958	78,863

The number of patrols by the police was less than the year before, and there is a corresponding decrease in arrests for non-descript misdemeanours, but an increase in arrests of liquor smugglers.

With East Coast fever approaching our borders, on the Natal side, it has been found necessary to supplement the police establishment with a considerable number of special police for duty on the mountain passes leading to Natal, where they have done valuable service under very severe climatic conditions.

Police State.

	1908-9.	1907-8.
European officers	13	14
,, constables ...	6	6
Native officers	4	3
,, constables	4	4
,, sergeants	8	8
,, corporals	12	11
,, privates	248	244
Total	295	290

Patrol Return, showing Arrests, &c., 1908-9.

	1908-9.	1907-8.
Number of patrols	2,446	2,638
,, men on patrol ...	3,509	3,679
,, miles patrolled ...	80,354	81,454
Arrests under Liquor Law ...	86	80
,, ,, Pass Law ...	147	139
Other offences	100	144

Gaol Return, 1908-9.

	1908-9.	1907-8.
Prisoners received into gaol ...	539	470
,, convicted	404	371
,, discharged unconvicted ...	198	96
,, in gaol 30th June, 1909	132	135
,, transferred	36	12
Floggings inflicted	1	1

Judicial Cases Heard, 1908–9.

	1908-9.	1907-8.
Culpable Homicide	4	13
Theft	74	57
Pass Regulations	106	127
Liquor Regulations	79	67
Trading Regulations	7	25
Resisting Police	17	31
Assault	10	14
Rape	4	2
Other Crimes	92	83
Civil Cases	23	24
Total	416	443

Summary:—

Criminal Cases	393
Civil Cases	23

All passes, as far as is known, between Natal and Basutoland are now blocked up or destroyed, with the exception of three passes which have been left open under charge of guards. Under the circumstances traffic of all kinds between the two countries is discouraged as far as possible.

I have much pleasure in reporting that the reorganisation of the Postal Department in the Territory, which was commenced in 1905, may now be said to be complete.

The Postmaster-General of the Cape Colony, to whom I am indebted for the following postal and telegraph returns, in a recent letter to me on postal matters concludes as follows:—"... and I may perhaps further remark that on a special inspection being made of all the post offices in the Territory, the officer specially detailed for the purpose reported that the service, with the exception of a few minor matters, was being conducted in a very satisfactory manner."

The results of this may be seen in the general increase in postal and telegraph business.

I regret that I have no figures in my possession showing the number of letters, &c., dealt with in our post offices during the year.

Transactions at Basutoland Post Offices for the year ended March 31st, 1909, with a comparison for the previous year:—

Money Orders.

	1908–9.				1907–8.			
	No.	Value.			No.	Value.		
		£	*s.*	*d.*		£	*s.*	*d.*
Issued ...	2,578	12,749	13	8	3,999	13,330	14	1
Paid ...	2,957	14,317	3	6	2,861	12,807	13	7

Postal Orders.

	1908-9. No.	Value. £	s.	d.	1907-8. No.	Value. £	s.	d.
Issued ...	9,835	5,612	1	11	5,641*	2,672	9	3
Payments ...	6,082	3,320	13	6	4,235	1,966	11	6

Savings Banks.

	1908-9. No.	Value. £	s.	d.	1907-8. No.	Value. £	s.	d.
Deposits ...	424	3,456	13	0	344	2,512	1	0
Withdrawals	177	2,772	17	1	109	2,348	14	8

Telegraph Collections.

	£	s.	d.
Total 1908-9	921	9	1
Total 1907-8	864	3	4½

Cable Collections.

	£	s.	d.
Total 1908-9	66	9	0
Total 1907-8	81	8	2

L. WROUGHTON,
Government Secretary.

His Honour
The Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

ANNUAL REPORT—LERIBE DISTRICT, 1908-1909.

Two serious disturbances occurred during the year under report—one at Makhoakhoeng, in the course of which the Chief Lebusetsa was killed, and one at Hleoeng, between the Chief Jonathan's sons, Mathealira and Motsarapane. The first was dealt with locally by me, and formed the subject of a special report. The second was dealt with by the Resident Commissioner.

The Chief Letsika's mental and physical breakdown alluded to last year continues to increase the difficulty of administration at Makhoakhoeng. He is not fit, physically, to deal with matters properly himself, but is still able to upset what his councillors

* Includes Cape Postal Notes which were withdrawn from sale on 31st December, 1907.

do in his name. The position is complicated by his relations with his eldest son, whom for years he has been trying to supplant.

I regret to report that, notwithstanding the efforts made to settle it, the Joel-Hlasoa dispute is as acute as ever. I am of opinion that the fault is with Joel, who is doing his best to make Hlasoa's position unbearable with a view to acquiring the land he occupies for his son, Qhobela.

In the west of the district wards have been marked out for the Chief Jonathan's sons, Mathealira, Motsarapane, and Tumo. The measure, which has been reported on specially, has afforded general satisfaction, and should be a strong safeguard to the peace of that part of the district.

A disturbance occurred within the last few days at Likhakeng. The case is still *sub judice*, so it would not be proper to say more about it now.

Notwithstanding the abnormal rainfall this year the roads are in excellent condition. A substantial increase was made in the annual grant, but full advantage was not derived from it owing to abnormal expenditure in connection with approaches to the bridge over the Hlotse River.

Our relations with neighbouring officials of the Orange River Colony continue to be of a cordial nature.

Though here and there some crops were destroyed by hail storms the total crop was excellent. The harvest, however, was too late to have its proper effect on the Hut Tax, which, I regret to say, is £679 short of last year. Last year was also short of the year before. That was due to failure of the crops, which is also in some measure the cause of this year's short-fall, as the new crops had not been reaped before the close of the financial year.

Another cause of poverty and consequent difficulty in collecting the tax is the habit of chiefs levying imposts on the people for their own or tribal purposes. This practice, which may in certain cases be quite legitimate, has in this district been much abused during the past year. Sums have been collected far in excess of the amount required for the ostensible purpose of the impost, and the balance is appropriated by the Chief.

I attach a report* from the Officer in Charge, Butha Buthe, and one from the Medical Officer here.

J. C. MacGregor,

Assistant Commissioner.

Colonial Office Note.—The detailed reports included in this and the following Reports of Assistant Commissioners have been omitted, as they are summarised in the report of the Government Secretary.

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* Not printed.

ANNUAL REPORT—BUTHA BUTHE, 1908-1909.

The past year has been quiet with the exception of a fight, which took place in August between Sefako and Lebusetsa, the latter being killed. Sefako and ten others were tried at Hlotse and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour each, and Sefako in addition to pay a fine of twenty head of cattle.

The friction between Joel and his younger brother Hlasoa still exists, and, I am afraid, will continue so unless something definite is done to separate them.

Except for the disturbance already mentioned, the Makhoakhoa have been quiet.

The mealie and kaffir corn crops are very good.

I regret to say that the Hut Tax has not been paid up well this year. There is still a shortage of £60 on last year's collection. Tax was paid on 4,025 huts. Arrear tax collected amounted to £46.

Although much damage was done to the roads in January by the very heavy rains, they are again in good order.

F. JENNER,

Sub-Inspector Basutoland Mounted Police.

ANNUAL REPORT—BEREA DISTRICT, 1908-9.

Assistant Commissioner's Office,
Berea.
July 5th, 1909.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit my report on the Berea District for the year ended June 30th, 1909.

The district has been very free from serious boundary trouble during the past year, though, until the last few days, the usual disputes between Koali and Moeketse, and between Patso and his neighbours, were constantly cropping up. It is to be hoped that these have now been finally settled. Messengers lately arrived from the Paramount Chief to put an end to these disputes, and Mr. Boyes came with them to represent the Resident Commissioner. Mphumo and Lekote have been removed from their places, and certain men sent away from Patso's own village. Masupha has promised to give Patso a site on the plateau. Koali has restored Mphoba and his people to Moeketse, and given him a larger piece of ground to take care of. So far the work of the Paramount Chief's messengers was eminently satisfactory. But

when they gave their decision as to a garden line between Thebe and Leshoboro, the result was not so good; neither Masupha nor Leshoboro would accept the judgment.

The list of crimes committed in the district compares favourably with that of last year. One serious case of murder occurred, but as it was tried in Maseru I have not included it in my list of cases.

I have planted and given away some thousands of young trees from the nursery garden this year, and they are doing very well. Our Agricultural Show was held on May 26th, and was about up to the usual standard. Some of the mealies shown were excellent, and evidently came from good seed supplied from outside.

The roads in the district are in very good order. Extensive works have been undertaken at the Qhalaheng spruit, where the course of the stream has been diverted in order to avoid the serious wash-away that was taking place during every heavy rain. The road up the hill from the spruit has also been protected by a wall.

I am sorry to say that the Hut Tax collected in the district is £214 under that of last year.

I have, &c.,

W. Boxwell,
Assistant Commissioner.

His Honour
The Resident Commissioner,
Maseru.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR MASERU DISTRICT, 1908-9.

I am glad to be able to report that no tribal disputes have disturbed the peace of the district during the past year. There is a considerable amount of natural anxiety as to how the nation will be affected when Union takes place in South Africa.

Early in January the representative Chiefs of the Territory assembled at Maseru, and the Paramount Chief in Council selected a Deputation to proceed to England to lay the views of the nation on the question of Unification of the South African States before His Majesty's Government. Whilst the Deputation was still away, His Excellency the High Commissioner, Lord Selborne, visited Maseru, and after opening the National Council, explained to the nation in Public Pitso the nature of the Schedule to the draft Act of Union. The Council was adjourned and arranged to re-assemble after the return of the Deputation, when it re-assembled to hear the report and consider other matters of national importance.

The country generally, and this district in particular, has sustained a great loss by the death of Setha Matete; Setha has always been one of the chief councillors of the nation, and his influence was invariably exercised for the good of the tribe.

The amount of revenue collected is in excess of the previous year, each sub-head showing an increase.

The number of passes issued is made up of 7,564 for the purpose of visiting, 10,554 labour passes, and 2,994 endorsed passes.

The smuggling of brandy into the district from the Orange River Colony continues unabated, and in almost every instance which has come under my notice it has been stated that the liquor had been obtained from the canteen by a white man, who handed it over to the native at an exceedingly high price. One hears on all sides that there are many white men in border towns in the Orange River Colony whose only means of livelihood is by this illicit trade.

A few swarms of flying locusts visited the district from the westward during the month of December, but did no damage. These swarms did not again leave the territory, as they were gathered at night into grain bags and eaten by the natives. No eggs have been deposited in the district. It is reported that locusts have deposited their eggs in the south-west portion of the Orange River Colony, and over a very wide area in the Cape Colony. Unless the hatchings from these eggs are destroyed, the outlook for the crops in Basutoland during the autumn is a black one.

There are two stallions standing at stud at this station, one being an imported thoroughbred and the other an Arab; they are under the control of the Veterinary Officer.

The sheep-dipping tank at Qeme has been freely used by the native; 8,089 sheep and goats were dipped. I am contemplating erecting another tank in the mountain area, and am in negotiation with an intelligent native, on the Meghaleng River, with a view to his taking charge of it.

A great number of young trees has been issued from the nurseries, and many thousands will be ready for issue in the spring.

The Veterinary Officer's Report* will deal with disease amongst stock.

An Agricultural Show was held on the 21st May. The grain exhibit was excellent but the stock poor.

The general health of the district has been satisfactory, no reports of any epidemics having been received. The Principal Medical Officer will report on the hospital and the health of the village. The native shelter at the railway station has been the means of keeping labourers, leaving and returning to the territory, out of the village at night. Owing, perhaps, principally to the copious rains which have fallen and the consequent strengthening of the springs, the water supply has proved ample.

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* See page 36.

The roads in the district have been greatly damaged by the rains (the rainfall being 42·56 inches), and it has been heavy work keeping them in repair. Some permanently good work has been put in owing to special grants having been made.

Religious instruction and educational work continue to be carried on by the various Missionary Societies. The Government aided schools have been visited and reported upon by the Director of Education.

During the month of October the Paris Evangelical Missionary Society celebrated at Morija the 75th anniversary of their Mission in Basutoland, at which representatives of their Paris Committee were present.

CHAS. E. BOYES,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—MAFETENG DISTRICT, 1908-9.

GENERAL.

1. The peace of Mafeteng District has been undisturbed during the past year.

2. There appears to be a considerable increase in liquor smuggling, 17 persons having been convicted of this offence in the local court during the last six months.

It is worthy of note that this increase of smuggling appears to coincide with the recent reduction of the police force in the Orange River Colony.

It would appear, from the persistent recurrence of this class of crime, that the penalties provided in the Basutoland Regulations are somewhat inadequate, and that both the amount of fine and alternative imprisonment require to be increased. It might also be well to give discretionary power of awarding a term of imprisonment without the option of fine where the circumstances of the case appear to justify it.

It is hoped that the additional special police, recently authorised, may be useful in detecting a larger proportion of the smuggling fraternity; but an additional police officer is much needed to keep in constant touch with the patrols and the district headmen, to insure more efficient co-operation.

3. A new form of intoxicant has been introduced into this territory from Bechuanaland during the last few years. The local name for it is "Qadi"; it is said to be made from ants' eggs. It has been found necessary to prohibit its use on the Government Reserve here owing to its demoralising effect. It produces violent intoxication, and is said to seriously impair the intellects of those who use it habitually.

4. A report was submitted to Government, in February last, drawing attention to the failure of the Basuto Chiefs to adhere to the provisions of their own laws in deciding native cases and disputes. A Sesuto Law Book was published in 1904 containing a synopsis of the old Basuto Laws of Moshesh, drawn up and passed by the National Council, and confirmed by the late Paramount Chief Lerothodi, forming a valuable text-book on the subject of Native Law. These regulations were, presumably, published as a guide to the Native Law Courts, but, as shown in the report above referred to, fully one-half of their number are either ignored or mis-applied by the chiefs at present in authority—notably the rule providing for appeals to Superior Courts.

The National Council has done good work in placing these Laws on record, but it is obviously important that the chiefs should not be allowed to ignore them.

5. The result of the sub-division of the clan Ba-Mohale (which was referred to in the Annual Reports for 1906-7, and 1907-8) has been to cause continued obstruction in the collection of Hut Tax in that portion of the district. The person appointed by the Paramount Chief to take charge of the sub-clan Ramoetsana, has proved himself singularly inefficient, and the complaints of his conduct, which have been addressed to the Paramount Chief, have had no result.

Agriculture.

There has been no trouble with locusts in this district during the past year; a few flying swarms came over from the Orange River Colony in the summer and passed on eastwards to the mountains, without apparently causing any damage.

The seasons have been good, on the whole, with greater rainfall than usual, and the various crops have been fairly abundant.

The suggestion made in my last year's report that Government should provide threshing machines, in order to enable the Basuto to supply better cleaned wheat for the markets, is again brought forward. As before stated, it is estimated that cleaning by machinery would add about 15 per cent. to the value of the product, and such an increase on the value of the many thousands of bags of wheat grown in Basutoland appears worthy of consideration.

A grass paddock for mares brought to the Government stud-horses has now been provided, and it is hoped that this may lead to better results in horse-breeding than have hitherto been shown. Great and increasing attention is being paid to horse-breeding in this district, some of the chiefs having imported thoroughbred stallions for stud purposes within the last year or two. The Government stallion Imperator (by Persimmon—Fine Lady) was extensively patronised during the past season; as was also a Colonial-bred horse, whose owner has placed him at the disposal of Government for stud purposes for some years past, with excellent results.

There is ample work for three stallions at Mafeteng if Government would provide them, and this would probably give better average results, as the one horse is in danger of being overworked during the covering season owing to the large number of mares brought in. Attention is again drawn to the expediency of putting a stop to the practice of allowing Basuto stallions of inferior type to run at large in the pasturage. Compulsory castration of some thousands of the worse specimens of this class of horse would undoubtedly do much to prevent the deterioration of the breed. It is noticeable at the Agricultural Shows throughout the territory that, while the class of brood mares shown is decidedly useful, the stallion class is apt to be poorly represented both in numbers and type, comparing badly with the class of riding-horses shown. This would appear to confirm the opinion expressed in a former report, that the Basuto seldom keep their best colts entire, being unwilling that their neighbours should derive benefit from their services. The deterioration of the breed, which must be the natural consequence of this want of public spirit among the Basuto, can only be satisfactorily prevented by unceasing effort on the part of the Government to supply the want of suitable stallions.

A fair amount of tree-planting has been carried on during the year, and considerable numbers of young trees, principally pines, have been issued to natives for planting from the Government plantations at Mafeteng. A supply of fencing material is required for enclosing fresh plantations and for the repair of existing fences. It is desirable that suitable sites for tree-planting should be acquired by Government outside the reserves, as recommended by the Cape Government Forest Officer during his visit last year.

Public Works.

Great difficulty was experienced in maintaining the roads in passable order during the summer and autumn owing to excessive rain. Additional expenditure for improved drainage will be advisable during the coming year.

A large additional supply of water will be needed for the requirements of the hospital which has been recently built. The present water supply is at times barely sufficient for existing demands. The Paramount Chief has agreed to our acquiring a supply from the eastern side of Mafeteng Mountain, which it is estimated should yield sufficient for all reasonable requirements, and it is necessary that arrangements be made to secure this supply before the hospital is opened.

F. Barrett,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—MOHALES HOEK, 1908-9.

The year under review has been marked by no outstanding feature of political significance.

In March some slight friction occurred between Goliath, Chief Malebanye's son, and Monehela over a question of "Maboella"; but a satisfactory settlement was speedily arrived at.

Chief Griffith, I regret to state, has been seriously indisposed during the greater part of the year, and to his illness I attribute, in no small measure, the arrear in Hut Tax. At the present time of writing his health shows material improvement.

In August a Commission, consisting of myself and the Resident Magistrate, Rouxville, Orange River Colony, was appointed to inspect the border fence. We made a thorough detailed inspection and found that it is, generally, in an unsatisfactory condition. Our report is under consideration.

In January three flying swarms of locusts passed over the district. No Voetgangers have been reported, proving the success of last year's campaign.

The illicit introduction of liquor into the district continues. This, in my opinion, is largely due to the apathy of chiefs in trying to cope with this evil. Nineteen offenders have been convicted and punished.

Only one case of stock theft has come under my notice.

The building of a bridge across the Cornet Spruit is still in abeyance. I trust, however, that the work will be put in hand during the ensuing year.

The new h spital, which has reached sill level, will be ready to receive patients in December, and will prove of inestimable benefit to the native.

The water supply shows no improvement, and a new scheme is engaging at present the attention of the Public Works Department.

Owing to the heavy rains experienced at the beginning of the year (February, 10·71 inches; March, 5·31 inches), several washaways occurred, necessitating the making of several miles of new road, but this work has been successfully accomplished, and the general state of the roads must be considered satisfactory.

One suspected case ot glanders was reported. The Chief Veterinary Officer, after thorough investigation; found the rumour incorrect.

The relations with neighbouring officials continue to be of the same cordial character.

At the Agricultural Shows held on 19th June, exhibits in sheep, goats, and cereals were excellent. Cattle and horses, if the riding-pony class be excepted, were not quite up to the usual standard.

Seventeen rams, purchased by Government, have been distributed in the different wards.

The wheat and mealie crops have been distinctly good, though the Kaffir-corn crop is disappointing.

J. W. Bowker,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—QUTHING DISTRICT, 1908-9.

A number of political questions required careful attention during the year. They were, however, of minor importance, and easily settled locally. The general desire of all parties for peace and quietness is apparent.

Sempe, the Chief of the district, is a well-meaning man but of rather weak character; I regret to say that he has become much addicted to strong drink. Like all weak men he is inclined to be tyrannical, and is easily led by bad counsellors. When, however, his cases are brought to my court, I always find him ready to listen to reason.

There has been very little serious crime during the year. There was not a single case of homicide. But I much regret to say that brandy smuggling from the Cape is still on the increase. I have, however, made a special report on this subject.

A successful Agricultural Show was held here in June. A satisfactory feature was the exhibit of the progeny of the Government Arab stud horses. They numbered 39, mostly foals, yearlings, and two-year olds. There was a large entry in the open class for foals and yearlings, and the first and second prizes were awarded to the progeny of the Government Arab Viceroy. There is no doubt that, at any rate during the past few years, the importation of these Government stallions has conspicuously improved the breed of horses in this district.

Seventeen exceptionally fine, thoroughbred Rambouillet rams were purchased by Government during the year for use here. They, unfortunately, however, arrived too late in the season to be made much use of this year. Forty-seven such rams have now been supplied by Government to this district, and a great improvement in the wool may be expected.

Over 7,000 ornamental trees were planted out on the Government reserve here during the year. I expect to be able to have about 30,000 more planted next spring.

A cottage hospital, capable of accommodating eight patients, has just been completed. It will satisfy a long-felt want, and will prove a great boon.

The Hut Tax collection amounted to £6,683, showing an increase of £227 over any previous year. There are 91 natives in the district who, for various reasons, are unable for the present to pay.

W. D. P. MANSEL,
Assistant Commissioner.

Quthing, Basutoland,
30th June, 1909.

ANNUAL REPORT—QACHA'S NEK DISTRICT, 1908 to 1909.

Nothing of any political importance has occurred in the district during the year under review.

Interest, mingled with alarm, has been manifested at the prospect of Basutoland being eventually included in the proposed Union.

During November, owing to Chief Makhaola's protests regarding the tract of country given to Ntaote, a son of the late Chief Letsie, the Paramount Chief again sent his councillors to reconsider their former decision, the result of which was that they defined another boundary line which gave a narrow strip comprising the villages of Ntja and Sekata back to Tlhakanelo.

Makhaola has appealed against this judgment, as he resents being deprived of the power that was given him when he was publicly " placed " in the year 1904.

On the 13th March Chief Tschahla Letsie died; he had been a leper for the last five years. His eldest son Mosue succeeds him.

Considerable work has been accomplished in blocking the passes on the Natal border; unfortunately some excavations have silted up, probably due to the abnormally heavy rains last summer. The necessary repairs have been undertaken.

The recent outbreaks of East Coast Fever adjacent to the border have necessitated the increase of our force of guards. These men, supervised by European officers, are constantly engaged in patrolling the border and watching the passes to check any attempt of cattle being introduced. I fear great hardships are experienced, as it is a most inhospitable region.

The annual Agricultural Show was held on 31st May, and proved successful.

Crops, particularly mealies, have done remarkably well in some wards. The wheat was partially destroyed by rain while being reaped.

The dipping tank was completed; 5,266 sheep and goats have been dipped.

Quarter evil is steadily gaining a firm hold, several cases having recently been reported; owners are being encouraged to inoculate as a preventive against this disease.

The East Griqualand-Basutoland border fence, which is contiguous to the district for a long distance, has been thoroughly repaired.

E. D'U. Blyth,
Assistant Commissioner.

Qacha's Nek,
30th June, 1909.

REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30TH, 1909.

Statistical.

The increase of the work of the Medical Department has been so remarkable in recent years that before submitting the usual tabular statement it will be interesting to review what has been accomplished by the department since the early days of the present Administration. Prior to 1890 there were resident medical officers at Maseru and Leribe, a medical missionary subsidised by the Government at Mohales Hoek, and at Mafeteng a medical practitioner from Wepener attended the dispensary once a week.

At all these stations free dispensaries for natives were maintained at Government expense. At first but few natives availed themselves of this privilege, and the duties of the medical officers were light.

In 1890 and 1891 resident medical officers were stationed at Mafeteng and Mohales Hoek respectively. From the latter station Quthing was visited once a fortnight. In 1896 a resident medical officer was placed there.

The free dispensaries were inaugurated with the idea of combating witchcraft, which was much practised throughout the Territory. The people at first regarded the innovation with suspicion and disfavour, but soon began to appreciate its advantages, and the number of patients increased rapidly. As years passed it was found that the privilege of free treatment was being abused; it was therefore determined to impose a fee of sixpence for each attendance at the dispensary. The annual attendance was at this date about 20,000, and the revenue derived from the department nil. The following year the attendance fell to 9,000, but has increased year by year, being at the present date over 36,000, the revenue being about £800.

At this time (1890) medical officers had their own private stock of drugs, which they used for the few European residents. The system gave rise to a belief in the native mind that the Government drugs were of an inferior quality, and people frequently requested to be treated by the medical officer at his house. To encourage such a prejudice would have defeated the object with which the dispensaries were inaugurated. The medical officers were therefore instructed to use Government drugs for private work, and refund monthly the value of the drugs thus used. This action quickly abolished the prejudice against the Government dispensaries.

In 1890 there was practically no accommodation for in-patients, except two small rooms attached to the Maseru Dispensary and a couple of native huts at Leribe. It was generally supposed that natives would be deterred by superstitious fears from submitting to hospital treatment, but a determined effort was made in the face of great difficulties and discouragement to disprove this, and develop some sort of hospital work. It was felt that if the policy aimed at by the Government was to be realised it would be greatly assisted by such means.

The actual accommodation at this time was of the meanest description. At Mafeteng for upwards of a year a disused stable was the only building available. There were no hospital attendants, and no water supply. If an operation was performed, the dispensary had to be cleared for the purpose, and the medical officer's writing-table of the morning was the operation-table of the afternoon. There were no beds and no bedding. Patients lay on mud floors in their own blankets, and their relatives or friends nursed them as they could.

From year to year small sums were granted to improve existing buildings and erect additional accommodation, which, however, continued to be of the most primitive nature.

In 1897 a grant of £400 was made for building what were by courtesy called operation rooms at four stations, for at this time the idea that natives would not submit to surgical interference had been quite disproved, and the surgical work was only limited by the means at the disposal of the medical officers. Some native hospital attendants, a few blankets, and surgical appliances were also provided, and the lack of accommodation eked out by a supply of tents.

The applications for hospital treatment continued to increase, and as only surgical cases were admitted, the buildings became, if possible, every year more and more unsuited for the purpose for which they were being used.

In 1903 the first real advance towards providing suitable accommodation for in-patients was made by the erection at Maseru of a properly built and equipped hospital of thirty beds. An adequate staff, including two trained European nurses, was also provided.

Although previous to this the medical Department had been starved, when once the policy of building was decided on it was pursued in a liberal spirit, with the result that in 1904 Maseru

possessed a hospital which would bear comparison with any in South Africa. The wisdom of this policy was soon manifested, the institution rapidly became popular with the natives, and the beds were always filled.

The same liberal policy was pursued in providing hospitals at Leribe in 1906 and last year at Mafeteng, while one now in course of erection at Mohales Hoek will be ready for occupation in January, 1910.

A small hospital of eight beds has also been put up at Quthing. The accommodation at Maseru has been found insufficient, and the provision of sixteen additional beds is contemplated.

In 1908 an X-Rays installation was provided at Maseru, and has proved of great value.

The number of in-patients has risen from 280 in 1899 to 1,070 in the present year.

Some criticism has been levelled against the policy of providing first-class accommodation for natives, especially the provision of proper bedding and hospital clothing, and it has been asserted that some simpler accommodation would have met the needs of the case.

Five years' experience at Maseru has shown that such criticism is not justifiable. The accommodation and equipment are only such as are necessary to carry out modern surgical methods. There is, moreover, the great educational advantage and civilising influence of compelling all who are admitted into hospital to submit to hospital cleanliness and hospital discipline.

Although the equipment is of the best, the patients are not in any sense coddled. Strict discipline is maintained, and the diet adapted to the social condition of the inmates. Prompt eviction follows any failure to conform to the rules of the institutions. That such action has only been necessary on very few occasions speaks well for the general character of the patients and their appreciation of the efforts made in their behalf.

That what is now being accomplished by the Medical Department may be easily realised and compared with other years, I append a table showing the number of patients in each year for the last ten years:—

Year.	New cases.	Subsequent attendances.	In-patients.
1900	11,300	3,442	250
1901	17,078	1,123	187
1902	14,192	1,734	177
1903	19,033	3,966	321
1904	17,399	4,475	416
1905	16,441	3,574	578
1906	20,139	3,747	650
1907	21,627	3,384	737
1908	24,203	4,597	850
1909	27,905	7,796	1,070

Table showing attendances at each station for the year ended June 30th, 1909.

Station.	New Cases.	Subsequent attendances.	In-patients.
Maseru	8,716	2,108	490
Mafeteng	8,261	3,078	89
Leribe	6,130	691	396
Mohale's Hoek	3,553	1,018	91
Quthing*	1,255	901	4

* 25th January to 30th June.

The work has also grown in other directions. In former years the Government employees, who are all entitled to free medical attendance and medicine, were few in number, and mostly unmarried men. At the present day there are over 200 Europeans in receipt of such free attendance. Questions relating to sanitation and public health, which were formerly ignored, now claim a good deal of time and attention.

I now come to an important point in connection with medical affairs, viz., the cost of administration. It is difficult to compare present expenditure with that which obtained in previous years, as complete data are not available. It has, however, been possible to analyse the hospital expenditure for the year under review, and to arrive at the cost per diem of each in-patient.

For this purpose I have taken the total expenditure at Maseru and Leribe for the period 1908-1909, separately from those stations where proper hospitals are not yet open. In estimating the cost of each patient per diem, everything except the medical officers' salaries has been included. As their initial salaries were fixed before hospital work was inaugurated, and no extra remuneration is given for that work, it would be misleading to include them in the cost of hospital administration. The total expenditure at Maseru and Leribe for the twelve months ending June 30th, 1909, was £2,554 6*s*. 1*d*. The revenue derived from paying patients was £75 19*s*. 6*d*. Eight hundred and eighty-six patients were admitted, and the average daily number was 47. This gives the cost of each patient per diem at 2*s*. 10½*d*., a very low figure compared with other hospitals in South Africa.

Hospital Expenditure at Maseru and Leribe.

	£	*s*.	*d*.
Salaries of European Staff	845	11	10
,, Native Staff	520	13	0
Food, light, fuel, and equipment... ...	897	11	3
Surgical appliances and drugs	290	10	0
Total	£2,554	6	1

All the out-patient departments, the maintenance of in-patients at stations other than Maseru and Leribe, attendance on Government officials, and public health administration, cost altogether £4,628 1*s.* 6*d.*, while £122 2s. was spent on medical expenses, and at stations where there are no resident medical officers.

Analysis of Expenditure.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Salaries of dispensers	442	16	0
Drugs	1,028	18	8
Upkeep of hospitals (old style)	173	1	2
Purchase of lymph	64	12	4
Medical expenses	122	2	0
Salaries of medical officers (6)	2,918	13	4
Total	£4,750	3	6

The amount spent on drugs exceeded that provided in the estimates. This was owing to the restocking of the Quthing Dispensary and the large increase in the number of patients at all the stations.

Sanitation and Public Health.

Basutoland is still without any Ordinance bearing on this subject. The unqualified practice of medicine continues throughout the Territory, and the annual sum paid by the people to those who impose on them would doubtless suffice to maintain two or three Government institutions.

The question of sanitation at Maseru is under consideration, and I trust that during the ensuing year something will be accomplished.

Public Health.

The general health of the Territory has been good, and there have been no epidemics of importance.

The health of the various police detachments and of the convicts has also been excellent.

Edw. C. Long,
Principal Medical Officer.

REPORT ON EDUCATION IN BASUTOLAND. JUNE, 1909.

Owing to the exceptional rainfall of this year, the work of school inspection has been attended with considerable difficulty. Many of the schools are by no means easy of access even in fine weather; during heavy rains, such as have fallen this season, it is always tedious and sometimes dangerous to undertake long cross-country journeys.

A travelling waggon has recently been built by the Government Industrial School for use in school inspections, and in future long journeys on horseback will not often be necessary, as the waggon will constitute a sort of moveable base, from which one can ride to a school and return without fear of being cut off by storms.

It is a difficult matter to measure the school work of one year with that of another, but, speaking generally, progress is being made in the direction indicated by Mr. Sargant.* A distinct improvement is noticeable in the schools of the Roman Catholic Mission, largely owing to the fact that a trained Sister has been visiting the various schools in order to show the teachers modern methods of instruction.

Statistics might be given showing the numbers in the standards (*i.e.*, those classes which adopt English as the basis of classification), but in the present state of education the temptation is always present to teachers to devote the greatest part of their attention to the standards to the detriment of the lower classes, and the more one sees of the schools the more convinced one becomes that if education is to have any real value for the Basuto it must be based upon sound teaching in their own language. Anything which encourages the teachers to hurry over this stage in order that their pupils may be considered as belonging to the standards, is fatal to education in the true sense of the word. If the pupils had some conversational knowledge of the English language, and were accustomed to hear it spoken in the villages, at the stores, and at the mission stations, the case might be different. As it is, among the natives in Basutoland the speaking of English is an exotic; it is an accomplishment of the few, and one which, if imperfectly acquired, gains for the exponent little credit with European listeners. In the institutions English is taught because it is the key to unlock the store of knowledge contained in English literature. In the day schools, while there is a certain necessity to prepare suitable pupils for these institutions, the paramount object should be to educate the mass of the people who will have no opportunity of entering these institutions. There is a tendency to confuse the value of English to a native from a practical point of view and from the point of view of its educational worth, and the methods of teaching adopted depend on which standpoint is taken. If the object of the pupil is to speak the language, a reading book is useful chiefly as a basis of conversation lessons, and the teacher's main object will be to give the pupil practice in speaking. If, on the other hand, the pupil is to be able not only to converse in the language, but also

* See Colonial Report (Miscellaneous) No. 52: [Cd. 4119].

to read its literature with enjoyment, a more bookish course is necessary. The essential test of the success of this latter method is that its object, viz., the reading of English literature, is achieved. Such a method fails if it leads the pupils only half way and leaves them with only a slight knowledge of grammar and spelling and the mere ability to read the easier sentences of a reading book.

It is possible, however, to harmonise these different methods, if it be remembered that each school course, elementary or higher, has its proper goal or termination, and that the pupil turned out of the elementary school is not to be considered as a half-finished product, but as one who has received an education which, within its limitations, is a complete one.

Opinion in Basutoland is practically unanimous that this elementary education should be given in Sesuto. There is nothing inconsistent in adding to the elementary course lessons on English in the same way in which French or German lessons are taken in an English school, but a fatal error is made when this, so to speak, " extra " is allowed to dominate the classification. The teacher's time is frittered away in hearing three or four tiny classes read separately from their various " readers," while the pupils are classified as Standards I., II., or III., as if they were at the threshold of education, whereas, in fact, by the time they reach these standards the school life of the majority is drawing towards its termination.

I would deprecate, therefore, any attempt to measure the value of a school by the number of children who are reading English in advanced reading books, or to belittle the worth of a school because the only language known by the majority of the pupils is Sesuto. A pupil who knows Sesuto thoroughly can read the Bible and the Pilgrim's Progress; he can follow the news of the day in Sesuto newspapers, and in his lighter moments can even read Sesuto novels. Many Europeans have gone far with little more book knowledge of their own language than this.

A meeting of the representatives of the missions is to be assembled shortly to discuss certain of Mr. Sargant's recommendations, in particular the adoption of a syllabus for the lower grades based upon that given in Mr. Sargant's report, and also the means by which such a syllabus is to be circulated, explained, and enforced. Much time must necessarily elapse before the actual working of such a school course coincides with the intentions of its framers. It can hardly be expected that teachers of long standing can suddenly alter their methods after having read, however carefully, a new syllabus which is intended to introduce a more intelligent form of instruction, and which makes considerably greater demands on the intelligence of the teachers. Unfortunately the existing institutions can give but little help in the matter of supplying the majority of schools with the stamp of teacher required. Hardly enough are turned out to staff the larger schools in which a considerable amount of teaching of English is expected, and the training given is on too expensive a scale to allow one to indulge in the forecast that some day all schools will be staffed with teachers competent to give instruction in English.

TABLE I.

Teachers and their Qualifications, as given by Mr. Sargant, 1905.

Mission.	Third Class Certificate of Cape Colony.	Second Year Pupil Teacher.	First Year Pupil Teacher.	Teachers who have passed the standards only.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Missionary Society.	28	17	20	195	260
Church of England	1	—	7	19	27
Total	29	17	27	214	287

TABLE II.

Teachers and their Qualifications, 1908.

Mission.	Third Class Certificate.	Second Year Pupil Teacher.	First Year Pupil Teacher.	Standards.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Missionary Society.	33	21	23	229	306
Church of England ...	1	1	6	23	31
Total	34	22	29	252	337

From a comparison of these tables it will be seen that the proportion of third-class teachers still remains much about the same as it was, when Mr. Sargant observed that 90 per cent. of the teachers were uncertificated, in spite of the fact that over £1,000 a year is spent on training institutions.

TABLE III.

Institutions.

Paris Evangelical Missionary Society:—

	No. of Pupils.	Grant. £	*s.*	*d.*
Morija Training Institution ...	195	1,016	0	0
Printing Office	10	64	0	0
Thabana-Morena Girls' Industrial and Training Institution ...	51	390	0	0
Leloaleng Boys' Industrial	45	600	0	0
	301	£2,070	0	0

Church of England:—

	No. of Pupils.	Grant. £	*s.*	*d.*
Training School for Boys, Masite ...	33	100	0	0
Industrial School for Girls, Maseru	22	25	0	0
	55	£125	0	0

Roman Catholic:—

	No. of Pupils.	Grant. £	s.	d.
Boarding School for Boys, Roma ...	87	78	10	0
Boarding School for Girls, Roma ...	118	97	10	0
	205	£176	0	0

	No. of Pupils.	Grant. £	s.	d.
Government Industrial School ...	51	500	0	0

Instead, however, of looking to the dim future, it is better to discover what is possible under the present circumstances, and it is here that one feels that insufficient attention has been paid to the training of those teachers who are called upon to undertake single-handed the management of small schools, which are admittedly doing the greatest and the most difficult portion of the work towards the advancement and the civilisation of the tribe.

It is not too much to expect a village school to turn out pupils who can read and write their own language with ease, and who can solve with rapidity the ordinary money problems which they are likely to meet with after having left school, yet even this modest equipment for life is not to be obtained in many schools owing to the teacher's ignorance of his art. Still, in imitation perhaps of those schools which prepare pupils for the institutions, one finds the already over-burdened teacher attempting to teach English to pupils who cannot yet read Sesuto. I am convinced that any great change in the education system will be of little value until the elementary, and, so to speak, national schools receive adequate attention.

A considerable increase is being made in the grants to the missions this year with the intention of helping the small schools in the backward districts. This increase is sufficient to enable such schools to pay a higher salary to those teachers who, in the opinion of the missionary, are deserving of it, and to offer to new teachers a wage high enough to attract reliable men.

It is impossible at present to secure for these schools men who have had some training, for the reason that no suitable course of training is open to them.

If there were sufficient money available for an extra grant it could hardly be more profitably spent than on providing the means by which future teachers could obtain an inexpensive form of training adequate to the limited standard of attainment which is expected in their schools.

The provision of a special grant for such a purpose is, however, out of the question. The elementary schools even now receive far less than their proper share, and any increased expenditure on institutions should be avoided until the amount spent on elementary schools is proportionate to that devoted to higher education.

TABLE IV.
Elementary Schools.

	Amount of grant for each scholar in average attendance. s.	d.
Paris Missionary Society	9	7½
Church of England	9	6
Roman Catholic Mission	9	6

TABLE V.
Institutions.

	Amount of grant for each scholar in average attendance. £	s.	d.
Paris Missionary Society	8	6	3
Church of England	2	10	0
Roman Catholic	0	14	11¼

TABLE VI.
Grants to Missions, excluding Building Grants.

Mission.	Amount spent on maintenance of Elementary Schools. £	Amount spent on maintenance of Institutions. £
Paris Evangelical Missionary Society	3,524	2,070
Church of England	418	125
Roman Catholic	224	176

The increase, therefore, has been made in favour of elementary schools. It has not been given on the score of their efficiency, but because they stand in urgent need of immediate aid.

Such a grant, however, can only be continued if efforts are made to increase the efficiency of these schools by providing suitable teachers, and it is the duty of those in charge of the schools to readjust their educational machinery to provide for the training of teachers of this class. The grant will serve to maintain alive those schools whose very existence appears to be in jeopardy, but in the meanwhile it is natural to expect that the breathing time afforded will not be wasted, and that within a reasonable time these schools may be entitled to a continuance of the grant by reason of their educational efficiency.

TABLE VII.
Allocation of Government Grants to Mission Schools, 1908-1909.

Mission.	Total grant including building grant, &c. £	Average attendance of pupils at schools and Institutions.	Grant per head. £	s.	d.
Paris Evangelical Missionary Society.	6,600	7,562		17	5¼
Church of England ...	800	941		17	0
Roman Catholic	600	562	1	1	4

It should be noted that the grant to the Roman Catholic Mission is rather above the average owing to a special grant of £200 being given in aid of the school building erected by the Marist Brothers at Roma at a cost of over £1,000.

The above table shows the distribution of the total Government grant to the three missions for the year 1908-09. The averages were, however, taken from the previous year, and here it may be mentioned that, while the statistics are not absolutely accurate, they are sufficiently so to afford data which will be useful in making comparisons for future years.

TABLE VIII.

Elementary Schools, from June, 1908-March, 1909.

Mission.	Number of schools.	Number of teachers.	Average attendance.			Average roll.			Percentage of attendance.		
			Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelica Missionary Society.	204	306	3,650	4,240	7,890	4,806	5,253	10,059	76	81	78
Church of England ..	27	29	490	536	1,026	636	687	1,323	77	78	78
Roman Catholic ..	9	18	78	353	431	105	531	638	74	66	68
Miscellaneous	8	8	48	103	151	59	118	177	82	89	86
Total	248	361	4,266	5,232	9,498	5,606	6,589	12,195	76	80	78

TABLE IX.

Schools according to size and Denominations—March, 1909.

Mission.	Number of Schools with an enrolment of					Total.
	Over 200.	Over 100 but not exceeding 200.	Over 50 but not exceeding 100.	Over 25 but not exceeding 50.	Under 25.	
Paris Evangelical Missionary Society.	5	14	56	85	44	204
Church of England.	—	2	9	14	2	27
Roman Catholic	1	3	4	1	—	9
Miscellaneous	—	—	—	4	4	8
Total ...	6	19	69	104	50	248

The above tables give the enrolment and attendance of pupils in the elementary schools during the period from June, 1908, to March, 1909. Considering the manifold duties which children in Basutoland have to perform, an attendance of 78 per cent. is fairly creditable. It is noticeable from these statistics that the number of girls attending schools considerably exceeds the

number of the boys, probably for the reason that they are more easily spared from home duties than the latter. They do not seem to equal the boys in their attainments, in spite of this superiority, as regards numbers and regularity of attendance. It will be interesting to compare future statistics on this point.

F. H. DUTTON,
Inspector of Education.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT, YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1909.

Government Hospital,
Leribe, Basutoland,
28th July, 1909.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Meteorological Report for the year ending June 30th, 1909.

Mr. Hodgson will take charge of the instruments here during my absence, and receive and tabulate the reports from other stations.

Certain instruments are required to be kept in stock for issue as required, and these are best purchased at home through the Meteorological Office and the Crown Agents. I will get an estimate and send it out to you, with a request for authority to purchase.

I have, &c.,

N. M. MACFARLANE.

The Government Secretary,
Maseru.

The statistics for the year under review are given in the attached six tables.* I regret that a number of returns have not yet been received from some of the stations, and which curtails the report considerably.

The year has been remarkable for its mildness and for the great amount of precipitation. I have looked through the old records and can find no year in which there has been more rain. The mean for the whole country is 44·53 inches, being 12½ inches more than last year. More or less rain fell every month except June. The spring rains were plentiful, and as a result the

* Not printed.

crops were above the average. The greatest amount of rain fell in January and February—that in January was most in the north, whilst in February the south received the greater part of it.

The greatest rainfall was recorded at Leribe, with 52·60 inches, which fell on 115 days. The stations in the north and south received more rain than those in the centre of the country, the reason for which I am not yet able to explain.

Owing to the rains in the spring months there was a welcome relief from the violent dust storms which usually prevail at that season of the year.

The extremes of temperature were not so marked as in drier years. Thunderstorms, too, were less numerous than usual—83 at Leribe, as compared with 133 for the previous year.

The sunshine recorded is almost the same as that of the previous years.

N. M. MacFarlane, M.D.,
Meteorological Officer.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1908-9.

Financial.

The following are returns of revenue and expenditure for the year ended 30th June, 1909:—

Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
1. Hut Tax	65,059	0	0
2. Post Office	3,441	3	6
3. Licences (including Fines)... ...	4,232	2	0
4. Fees of Court	237	5	6
5. Miscellaneous	1,872	0	3
6. Customs	30,060	3	11
7. Interest	3,736	3	10
Total	£108,637	19	0

being a short fall of £7,892 as compared with the revenue collected last year.

This is principally due to the Customs' receipts being less this year by £6,994 than last year, which may be accounted for by the partial failure of the wheat and maize crops for the year 1908.

Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.
1. Establishments	14,184	4	11
2. Police	17,976	12	6
3. Post Office	4,024	8	9
4. Allowances, Chiefs and Headmen...	5,781	19	4
5. Medical Expenses	351	15	11
6. Office Contingencies	1,211	4	8
7. Revenue Services	421	12	10
8. Administration of Justice	2,718	2	5
9. Transport	145	2	8
10. Public Works	35,772	10	7
11. Hospitals	7,304	7	6
12. Education	10,630	18	11
13. Rewards for Special Services ...	80	0	0
14. Audit	303	13	8
15. Miscellaneous	4,918	2	3
16. Agriculture	9,127	4	1
17. National Council	372	1	11
Total ordinary expenditure ...	£115,324	2	11
Capital expenditure from surplus balances	11,597	5	8
	£126,921	8	7

The ordinary expenditure exceeded the revenue by £6,686. This was unavoidable, and was due partly to the revenue not realising the amount estimated and partly to expenditure in connection with prevention of east coast fever and some other unforeseen expenditure. The sum of £4,475 was expended during the year in blocking passes and guarding the Basutoland-Natal border, with a view to preventing the entry of east coast fever. The extremely heavy summer rains caused considerable damage to roads, and necessitated a larger sum than usual being spent on maintenance and repair, £18,956 being allocated for this purpose.

The following is a comparative return showing the revenue and expenditure for the last five years:—

Year ending	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
30th June, 1905 ...	97,034	1	6	78,837	8	2
30th June, 1906 ...	98,515	6	3	93,333	13	8
30th June, 1907 ...	111,903	17	9	108,832	19	4
30th June, 1908 ...	116,529	11	10	126,603	10	6
30th June, 1909 ...	108,637	19	0	126,921	8	7

The expenditure for 1908-9 includes £11,597 5*s*. 8*d*., being capital expenditure from surplus balances.

Statement of Liabilities and Assets on June 30th, 1909.

Liabilities:—Nil.

Assets:—

	£	s.	d.
Balance at Standard Bank, Maseru ...	21,742	4	7
Balance in hands of Sub-Accountants ...	4,050	19	2
Balance in hands of Crown Agents ...	155	15	9
On fixed deposit with Standard Bank ...	35,000	0	0
On loan to Central South African Railways	10,000	0	0
On loan to Swaziland Administration ...	60,000	0	0
Advances	51	13	5
Remittance in transit to Crown Agents ...	2,000	0	0
Assets	£133,000	12	11

Commercial.

Return of Exports for Year ended 31st December, 1908.

Articles.	Quantity in lbs or number.	Value.
Live Stock.		
	No.	£
Horses	88	1,436
Cattle	144	1,043
Sheep and goats	130	130
All other (pigs, poultry, &c.)	—	56
	lbs.	
Corn, Grain, and Flour.		
Kaffir corn	2,656,019	6,616
Maize	11,508,783	21,269
Oats	2,031,509	5,254
Wheat	8,237,817	31,420
Flour (wheaten)	354,914	2,064
All other	441,582	1,049
Hair and Wool.		
Hair (Angora)	913,534	31,051
Wool (sheep's)	4,672,446	83,251
Hides and Skins.		
Hides (cattle)	14,680	315
Skins (sheep and goats) ...	91,250	1,389
All other Articles of Merchandise	—	820
Miscellaneous		
Imported goods re-exported	—	5,959
		£193,122

being a decrease of £55,419 on the value of exports for 1907.

Wheat, though showing an increased output as compared to last year, did not come up to expectations, the bulk of the crop being destroyed by lice.

The maize crop suffered severely from drought, and the export shows a considerable drop on the previous year.

The export of wool and mohair continues to increase steadily, and though the value has decreased owing to market fluctuations, the quantity shows a satisfactory increase.

Return of Imports for the Year ended 31st December, 1908.

Articles.	Value.
	£
Animals (horses, cattle, sheep, &c.)	6,611
Apparel, slops, &c.	13,331
Bags of all sorts	6,893
Beads of all sorts...	746
Cotton piece goods	15,564
Cotton manufactures	22,343
Food and drink (articles of)	29,293
Haberdashery and millinery	12,509
Hardware and cutlery, fencing material, &c.	7,860
Hats and caps	757
Implements (agricultural)	3,904
Iron manufactures	1,713
Leather and leather manufactures (including boots and shoes)	16,223
Soap of all kinds...	4,004
Vehicles of all sorts	2,196
Wood (manufactured and unmanufactured) ...	3,514
Woollen manufactures (including blankets and shawls)	67,539
All other articles of merchandise	22,240
	237,240
Articles for the use of the Government ...	2,590
	£239,830

being an increase of £1,231 as compared to the previous year.

The Customs statistics being for the calendar year, naturally do not account for the shortage in share of Customs duty in the year under report. The depression caused by failure of the maize crop, which was harvested during the months of June, July, and August, would therefore be felt in the first half of the financial year 1908-9. The following is a comparative statement of imports and exports for the last five years:—

Year ending	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
30th June, 1905... ...	149,821	164,817
30th June, 1906... ...	191,701	172,496
31st December, 1906 ...	242,353	185,155
31st December, 1907 ...	238,599	248,541
31st December, 1908 ...	239,830	193,122

J. P. MURRAY,
Financial Secretary.

GOVERNMENT VETERINARY OFFICER'S REPORT.

Maseru,
August 4th, 1909.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report for the year ended June 30th, 1909.

Having been transferred from the Natal Government Service too late to render an annual report for 1908, I propose this report should embrace the whole time I have been in the Basutoland Service.

On my arrival at Maseru I found the residents of Basutoland being caused considerable inconvenience owing to a very irksome restriction being placed upon all equines crossing the Basutoland border into the Orange River Colony. This restriction compelled all owners to possess a certificate from a veterinary surgeon certifying the animals had given a negative reaction to mallein or, in the event of the animals' return, a health certificate certifying the animals were free from any clinical evidence of glanders. This restriction was placed upon Basutoland by the Orange River Colony Government, because they were of opinion that glanders was very rife amongst our equines. Subsequent events proved that such an opinion was entirely erroneous. In carrying out the restriction hundreds of horses passed through my hands and those of the Officer of the Orange River Colony Veterinary Department, and it is gratifying to relate that not a single case of glanders came under notice, with the result that in August the restriction was cancelled.

With the report that glanders was very rife in Basutoland, I went to great trouble to ascertain the truth of this, and during the last 12 months there has only been one outbreak. This occurred amongst Basutoland Mounted Police horses at Maseru in October, all clinical cases and reacters were destroyed, compensation being paid for all. The origin of the contagion was not positive, but I am inclined to think that the native police stable was responsible for it, not having been properly disinfected from a previous case of clinical glanders 12 months before. The importance of the proper treatment of stables cannot be overestimated in dealing with outbreaks of glanders. In May it was reported to me by the Orange River Colony Veterinary Department that a Mr. Reid had driven from Maseru to Quthing with a glandered horse, the said horse entering several stables on the way. This matter was dealt with by me, all horses (25) residing in these stables were tested and no animals reacted. All mangers were burnt, and I am quite satisfied that if any infection was left by the horse in question it has been successfully dealt with. As far as native horses are concerned, one would not expect glanders to make rapid progress in Basutoland, inasmuch as these horses are never stabled nor are they overcrowded, and there is no doubt that overcrowding and stabling play the most important part in the dissemination of the organism of glanders, which was clearly illustrated in the Anglo-Boer War.

East Coast Fever.

All precautions such as fencing, rendering passes impassable, &c., have been taken on our Natal border, but of course the best protection we have against the disease is the loyal co-operation of the Basuto residing on our border, as no cattle can be brought in without some of the residents knowing of such illegal movement. In order to emphasise to the Basuto native the gravity of such a disease gaining a foothold in Basutoland, I was instructed by His Honour the Resident Commissioner to take certain chiefs to Natal and give them an ocular demonstration of what the disease was like, and what terrible havoc it had created. I have rendered you a full report on this matter, and there is no doubt that this mission went far to bring home to the Basuto the importance of keeping out the disease.

In order to render all inhabitants conversant with the broad outline of the disease, which, of course, is quite new to South Africa, I wrote a pamphlet dealing with the disease as lucidly as possible, and this has been sent to every European in Basutoland, and a Sesuto translation has been disseminated throughout the territory. During the last 12 months the disease has made alarming progress in Natal, and there is no doubt that our position is very much more serious than it was 12 months ago, and the fact that an outbreak of the disease has occurred in Drakensberg Location, No. 2, indicates how necessary it is to watch the border and also to investigate any bovine mortality, not forgetting the real importance of slides being sent for microscopical examination, as laid down in my pamphlet on East Coast fever.

In my travels in Basutoland I have paid considerable attention to the tick life, and in most places I have been able to demonstrate the *Rhipicephalus evertsi*, which we know acts as a carrier of the disease. We often have a forcible illustration of the presence of this tick by frequent outbreaks of biliary fever in horses. During the last 12 months I have been able to demonstrate three piroplasmata in Basutoland, viz., piroplasmata of equine and canine piroplasmosis, and the piroplasma bygeminum of the ox, and knowing that these are able to flourish quite well in Basutoland, there is no reason to suppose the piroplasma parvum of east coast fever would not do likewise if it was given the opportunity by introducing infected animals.

Equine Piroplasmosis.

I have had many cases of this disease to treat during the last 12 months, and there is no doubt a large percentage of Basutoland horses possess no immunity to this disease. Infection is very active at Maseru and neighbourhood, and probably the war was largely responsible for this. All cases treated by me have recovered. As you are aware, the disease is transmitted by the red-legged tick, and this tick can be demonstrated on nearly all equines in this part of Basutoland at all times of the year.

Canine Piroplasmosis.

I was very much surprised to find this very fatal canine disease so prevalent in Basutoland, especially when one is aware

it is a tick-borne disease. I have many times demonstrated the piroplasma microscopically in infected animals, and also found the cansal tick, viz., the *Hæmpphysalis leachi*, and this tick appears to be very prevalent in some parts of Basutoland. Considering what a very fatal disease this is, I have had several recoveries, and it would indeed be of great value if some prophylactic or specific curative treatment could be found out. Lately the pathology of this disease has been carefully worked out by Professor Nuttall of Cambridge, and he has also applied himself to discover some agent that will act as a curative, and from his last report he appears to have tried every likely remedy in the pharmacopœia, but so far without avail.

Bovine Redwater.

During the summer I met with several cases of this disease, which is due to the piroplasma bygeminum transmitted by the blue tick (*Rhipicephalus decoleratus*); this tick is quite common in some localities.

Quarter Evil.

This is certainly the worst bovine disease that exists in Basutoland, and if statistics were forthcoming we should find that there is a heavy annual mortality. The infection is underspread from the lowlands to the highest mountain veldt. I have already rendered you a full report on this disease, showing how easily this mortality could be avoided if owners will only resort to inoculation. This material for inoculation can be obtained from me at cost price.

Sheep Scab.

In taking the ordinary waggon route through Basutoland, one is struck with the fact that very little scab exists in the flocks, but it has to be remembered that these areas are not the true sheep-bearing parts of Basutoland, and in order to ascertain the truth about scab in Basutoland I took a trip, travelling for five days amongst the mountains, during April. Here I found scab was fairly prevalent, but at the same time it was gratifying to find that all owners realised the seriousness of the disease and were doing their best to control it by hand-dressing, which, of course, is not a very efficient means of eradicating scab. Basuto sheep-owners fully realise what serious losses may ensue from neglected scab, and it is largely due to this that all sheep in the mountains are clipped twice annually. Dipping tanks in the mountains, or as adjacent as possible, would be of the greatest benefit to mountain sheep-owners, and I have already discussed the matter with His Honour the Resident Commissioner. I have submitted to you a full report on the administration of the dipping tanks throughout the territory, pointing out how unsatisfactorily some are conducted, and the necessity for uniform administration.

The following sheep and goats have been dipped at the respective tanks:—

Qacha's Nek	4,083
Quthing	4,467
Khamolane	1,825
Berea	1,638
Leribe	913
Qeme	8,089
Mosala	3,784
Motsekaoa	960
Hellspoort	15,648
Mafeteng	5,077

It is unfortunate that the dipping statistics do not furnish the information as to whether all the flocks were dipped entirely because they were infected with scab.

I understand that a large number of sheep that were dipped at Hellspoort were not scab infected, but the natives, through the influence of Mr. Collier, who is in charge of the tank, dipped their whole flock twice annually after clipping, a most desirable state of affairs to cultivate.

Lung-sickness.

No outbreak of this disease has occurred during the past year, and in view of the prevalence of this disease in the Cape Colony, this must be looked upon as very satisfactory.

During the year 1,185 head of cattle have been inoculated at Quthing, in terms of Cape Proclamation prohibiting the introduction of cattle from Basutoland unless holding an inoculation certificate.

Horse-sickness.

The meteorological conditions were ideal for this this year, but there was a remarkably small mortality; a typical case, both *ante* and *post mortem*, occurred in March amongst the Government transport mules at Maseru, but as far as I am aware this was the only case that occurred in Basutoland, but some of the neighbouring farmers in the Orange River Colony sustained some losses. Mosquitoes were, accordingly, prevalent this summer, mainly due to such favourable conditions for breeding purposes. (22 inches of rain fell at Maseru during January and February.)

Ticks and Blood-sucking Flies.

In examining the tick life of Basutoland I found a tick at Quthing quite unlike any of the ticks I was conversant with in Natal. I sent this tick to Mr. Lounsbury, who kindly identified it as the *Rhipicephalus pterioides*. It is a one sucker, and as far as is known does not transmit any disease. I have since sent pregnant females to Dr. Theiler and Mr. Cooper for further study, and Dr. Theiler intends to test its capabilities concerning East Coast fever. This tick is to be found throughout Basutoland, even on our highest veldt, and I have on several occasions

demonstrated the tick on animals in the Orange River Colony. In the neighbourhood of Maseru, during the heat of the summer, there is an abundance of small blood-sucking flies; these flies worry the horses enormously, and are particularly fond of biting the neck, a situation the unfortunate horse finds it very difficult to get at. The fly in appearance closely resembles the common house fly, and might easily be mistaken for one. Mr. Lounsbury kindly identified the fly as the *Stomoxys calcitrans*. This fly is interesting in view of the possibility of South Africa being inundated from the north by a trypanosome capable of being transmitted by blood-sucking flies other than the tsetse family.

Strangles.

This disease has been exceedingly prevalent during the whole year, and during the winter and drought period was frequently responsible for great debility amongst young horses. The disease has been very active in the neighbourhood of Maseru, and I think our systems of drinking troughs is frequently responsible for transmitting the infection, as one often observes animals with a profuse nasal discharge drinking at the troughs which are practically used by all the horses residing in and visiting Maseru. Fortunately, horses obtain considerable resistance to this disease after being once infected, and for this reason the disease for the most part is one of adolescence. Animals properly treated usually make a good recovery.

Animal Parasites.

The worst enemy to Basutoland equines is the underspread worm infection that exists, and during the winter and early spring horses frequently become very emaciated through the injurious effects produced through these parasites. I have been able to demonstrate the *Spiroptera megastema*, *Strongyhus armatus*, *Strongyhus tetracanthus*, *Ascaris megalocephala* and *gastrophilus*, and *Equioxyuris curvulæ*. Natives are fully aware of the harmful effect of these parasites and are constantly bringing animals to me for treatment.

Tape worm (*Tænia expansa*) is exceedingly prevalent amongst calves in Basutoland, which is frequently causing much sickness and death in young calves, and especially those born between December and May. Good results can be obtained by proper treatment if animal has not become too emaciated.

Stud Department.

In taking over the supervision of the stallions, I found two of these, "Farsang" and "Aladdin," suffering from osteoporosis. Farsang in the advanced stages of the disease which finally caused his death. Aladdin was not so badly affected, and I put this horse under treatment at Maseru and, apparently, with considerable beneficial results, but inasmuch as I considered it very unwise to use a horse suffering from bone disease to propagate his species, and also the undesirability of putting such an animal on the market, His Honour the Resident Commissioner consented to his destruction.

The pathology of osteoporosis is not fully elucidated, but in investigating the history of these two animals, one was struck with the fact that feeding and care may have had some predisposing cause. These animals for the most part were fed almost entirely upon oat forage, leading a very indolent life, and for a stallion, who in the season has a considerable drain upon his system, an oat forage diet is entirely deficient in the necessary constituents essential for such an animal. In view of this osteoporosis, I considered it necessary to draw up a ration, notably rich in lime salts, that should be fed to all Government stallions throughout the territory, and in addition to this I have supplied sterilised bone-meal, which is to be given daily in the food. I hope this will be the means of preventing any further cases of this disease. At the early part of the season it became apparent that "Kohat" had become too old to meet the requirements of a Government stallion, and was therefore sold by auction at Bloemfontein.

In order to meet stud requirements at Maseru I purchased the roan thoroughbred horse "Roscommon," and I anticipate this horse will get some stock very suitable for the local requirements of Basutoland. During the last season the following horses stood at the different centres in Basutoland:—

"Durraj" and "Roscommon"—Maseru.
"Imperator"—Mafeteng.
"Nuhajjah"—Quthing.
"Viceroy"—Qacha's Nek.
"Durbar"—Leribe and Mohales Hoek.
"Sinbad"—Butha Buthe.

The Teyateyaneng District was without a horse.

It is regrettable that the past records of Government stallions in Basutoland have been so bad, nor is this to be wondered at when one ascertains how imperfectly the stud work has been conducted. For the last seasons the following have been the results:—

241	mares	covered	...	...	...	31	foals.
252	,,	,,	...	...	...	16	,,
338	,,	,,	...	...	...	94	,,
252	,,	,,	...	...	...	57	,,

I think that we should at least expect to get 50 per cent. of foals, and there is no doubt in my mind that if the stallions were only managed properly we should succeed in doing this. At the commencement of the season I rendered you a full report on the matter, pointing out how things should be conducted, and making a special point of mare selection, and the great importance of making natives return with their mares every ten days until there was good proof the mare was stinted. The importance of this was well illustrated at Maseru with stallions under my own control. Of the first 22 mares covered, not a single one was stinted, but by having these mares repeatedly returned to stallion, I am hopeful a good percentage are now pregnant.

Except for one district, the advice in terms of your circulars has been ignored, and I fear the percentage of foals in these districts will be as bad as it has been in the past.

With an attractive horse at their disposal, native horse-breeders are very keen on improving their breed, and if we could by proper selection have the best mares mated with good horses, and point out to owners the advisability of preserving the best colts as stallions, then in the future we could hope to improve the Basuto pony and bring him up to a higher standard, as all people who have resided in Basutoland for a long period are agreed that the Basuto pony has degenerated very considerably, nor is this to be wondered at when one observes what miserable specimens of horses are often allowed by them to propagate their species, and I am quite satisfied that the Basuto pony of to-day, for the most part, is the outcome of environment rather than anything that the average Basuto horse-breeder has done. Knowing what splendid local conditions exist in the proper grazing areas of Basutoland, then how easy it should be to produce really high-class ponies if only some energy and brains were mixed with these favourable conditions. The weakest section in all the horse sections of our Agricultural Shows (except one) was the stallion classes, and I lose no opportunity of pointing this out to all natives I come in contact with who show any interest in horse-breeding. Notwithstanding the remarkably small percentage of foals that have been obtained in the past, one occasionally observed very forcible illustrations of how some sires have improved the local article when the proper chance is given, and only recently two riding horses sired by Government stallions were sold in Maseru for £92.

During the autumn I purchased 85 pure-bred Merino rams and 35 Angora goats, and these were distributed by the Assistant Commissioner in the following districts:—

Maseru, Leribe, Teyateyaneng, Mafeteng, Mohales Hoek, and Quthing.

The Assistant, Qacha's Nek, purchased the rams for his district in Griqualand. I am of opinion that this money is spent to excellent advantage, and it not only has an excellent effect upon improving the quality and quantity of our wool and mohair, but it has a very extensive educational side, in forcibly pointing out to the Basuto flockowner the wisdom of selecting the proper ram to put into his flock, and this lesson is the one most needed to the native stock farmer in Basutoland, and if we can continue to do this then there is a hope that in due course he will apply the same principle to his cattle and horse breeding.

The following are some interesting statistics showing the annual increase in wool and mohair during the last 16 years, which closely illustrate what a splendid country Basutoland is for sheep and goats. Wool during this period has increased 380 per cent. in weight and 479 per cent in value, and mohair has shown the extraordinary increase of 2,899 per cent in weight and 3,820 per cent. in value. I am indebted to Mr. Geo R. Hobson, Chairman of the Basutoland Chamber of Commerce for these figures:—

Mohair Exported.

	Lbs.	£
1893	30,460	792
1894	68,499	2,151
1895	83,657	3,499
1896	68,023	3,147
1897-1901, no statistics.		
1902	406,853	10,691
1903	396,710	11,454
1904	399,577	12,386
1905	443,650	13,085
1906	680,947	26,191
1907	825,448	32,963
1908	913,534	31,051

Wool Exported.

	Lbs.	£
1893	972,305	14,355
1894	903,791	12,411
1895	1,116,962	15,988
1896	1,048,133	14,200
1897-1901, no statistics.		
1902	3,729,173	46,794
1903	2,859,671	45,140
1904	2,848,760	49,353
1905	2,943,710	53,659
1906	3,733,776	82,330
1907	4,117,237	98,207
1908	4,672,646	83,251

Agricultural Shows.

I visited all the Shows throughout the territory with the exception of Qacha's Nek, and I have rendered you a full report on this matter.

During the year I have treated 1,085 animals, 465 of which belong to natives.

Since October it was decided that I should make a small charge to all natives and Europeans, covering cost of drugs, &c.; this has proved satisfactory and has not deterred natives from bringing their animals for treatment.

The erection of a new office, dispensary, laboratory, and suitable out-buildings has proved most useful, and enables one to carry out one's numerous duties more efficiently.

I have, &c.,

F. A. VERNEY,
Chief Veterinary Officer,
Basutoland.

The Government Secretary,
Basutoland.

REPORT ON THE GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Industrial School,
Maseru,
June 30th, 1909.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report on the Industrial School for the year ending June 30th, 1909:—

Roll.

The school is gradually recovering from the rebellion of October, 1907. At the end of June, 1908, there were 24 pupils in the school. New boys were admitted in July and January, and there are now on the roll 41 pupils, distributed as follows:—

Carpenter's Department	15
Mason's Department	13
Blacksmith's Department	6
Waggon-maker's Department	4
Engineer's Department	3

The effort to obtain pupils between the ages of 16 and 18 years of age has been fairly successful. It is difficult to get boys at that age, as so many native boys do not go to the elementary schools until they are about 12 or 13 years old, and beyond the age for herding cattle. The average age of boys in Standard III. or IV. in the elementary schools is very high, and it is desirable that boys for the school should have at least passed Standard III.

The presence of younger boys conduces to better discipline being maintained.

Discipline.

The behaviour of the boys throughout the year has been good. By exercising tact it is easier to maintain discipline among the boys than it is amongst European boys of the same age.

The lessons of the rebellion have not been forgotten by the boys, and the strong attitude taken up by the Government in not allowing any of the rebellious boys to come back to the school, has had a very wholesome effect. The boys now realise that they come to school to learn obedience as well as a trade.

Pocket Money.

The system of paying the pupils a small sum monthly, as is done in the various missionary institutions in the Cape Colony, was introduced in July, 1908, and it has proved most satisfactory. The pupils seem to take more interest in their work, and are certainly more careful with tools and material. Fines are inflicted for breakage and wastage.

Progress.

The progress made by the boys is in many cases remarkable, and reflects great credit on the care and patience which the Instructors exercise in the various departments. There are a

few whose capabilities are very limited, but the majority, after four years at the school, will be useful and proficient workmen, and equipped with a trade which will enable them to earn a good living and assist in the development of their own country.

Work.

The future prosperity of the school depends, as was pointed out in the last annual report, on the amount of work the Government is able to entrust to the school. At the beginning of the year the Carpenter's Department was for three months at a standstill owing to want of work; in the Waggon-maker's Department we had a great deal of finished work on hand which we were only able to dispose of at the end of June.

It might be possible in the near future to make the school responsible for all Public Works in Maseru, under the direction and instructions of the Inspector of Public Works.

The maintenance of all the Government buildings in Maseru would be sufficient to keep the school going throughout the year. It would be, educationally, good for the pupils, as they learn far more doing jobbing work than in making new goods, and, financially, it would enable the school to be carried on in an efficient manner with a smaller annual grant for maintenance. If this were done it would be necessary to increase the staff by the addition of an Instructor in painting and house decorating, in connection with the Carpenter's Department; this would enable the pupils to be trained in a most useful trade, for which there is plenty of work throughout the country, not only at the Government Magistracies but at the traders' stores.

During the past year the value of work completed in each department was as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Carpenter's Department	1,379	9	0
Mason's Department	948	2	8
Blacksmith's Department	519	14	0
Waggon-maker's Department ...	525	14	11
Engineer's Department	718	6	10
	£4,091	7	5

The following contracts were undertaken:—New cells at Maseru jail; new police barracks at Maseru; windows for the National Council Chamber and Assistant Commissioner's quarters; carpenter's work at the Masonic Lodge; travelling waggon for the Inspector of Education; Scotch carts for the Public Work's Department; pumping for the Central South African Railways; general milling and threshing. The school is now employed in erecting a schoolroom and dormitory for the English Church Girls' Industrial School.

The thresher has not proved so satisfactory this year. The rains spoilt a great deal of the wheat crop. The natives do not realise that the machine must be moved quickly from one place

to another, and, consequently, many days are lost in working. The threshing only paid this year the cost of wages of teacher and food for the pupils employed, and brought in nothing for depreciation. The general idea amongst the people seems to be that as the machine belongs to the Government there is no need to hurry.

During the coming season it would be advisable to set the machine up in Maseru and make the people bring their wheat in to be threshed. This system is adopted by Mr. W. Scott, of Mafeteng, and he finds that it works very well.

The Inkoos Mill has continued to do good work and to be of great use to the people of Maseru. I would like, however, to press for a better milling plant as the small mill is quite inadequate for our purposes, and, as was pointed out in the last report, there is a need for a good mill in Maseru.

The Engineer's Department has continued to make good progress. It is to be regretted that there are so few pupils in the department, as the need for trained natives who can look after small steam and oil plants is increasing in South Africa.

Cost of Maintenance.

The average cost per pupil for the year has been £21 15*s*., excluding depreciation on buildings and plant. This is lower than any other institution of a like nature. At the Transkei General Council School at Butterworth, the average cost, as shown in the last report, was £34 15*s*., excluding depreciation.

In a report presented to the Transkei General Council by a special Commission, it is shown that the average cost per pupil at the Missionary Institutions is £22 per head. The Commission, with reference to this cost says: "The difference is probably accounted for by the fact that at the Missionary Institutions there is always a staff of officers who, while performing other duties, also assist in the work of the Industrial Department, and thus the latter is saved a considerable proportion of the expense."

The fact that pupils at this school have cost less than £22 per head, shows that the teachers have each done their best for the school.

It is impossible to make the school a financial success, but I hope to be able to considerably reduce the cost per head if we can get the work to do.

The Transkei General Council give all their work to their institution, and if we can get all the public works, or a good proportion of them, the cost should be considerably lessened.

General.

In January the school buildings were used for a Native Teachers' Vacation Course.

In March the buildings were used for the meetings of the National Council.

At the opening of the National Council, His Excellency the High Commissioner made an inspection of the school, and before leaving addressed the boys. The visit of His Excellency was much appreciated by the staff and the pupils.

The health of the pupils during the year has been excellent.

During my absence, for three months, on leave, the work of Director was ably carried out by Mr. H. Rhind, the Senior Instructor.

I have to thank the Staff, European and native, for their loyal support given me in the direction of the school.

I have, &c.,

NELSON W. FOGARTY,
Director.

REPORT ON PUBLIC WORKS.

Government Offices,
Maseru,
30th October, 1909.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report on the principal public works undertaken in the country between July, 1908, and June, 1909. They are as follows:—

	Cost. £
New National Council Building, Maseru	4,036
New Quarters for Assistant Commissioner, Maseru ...	2,470
New Accommodation Sheds at Maseru Railway Station	543
New Veterinary Surgeon's Offices, Maseru	558
New Hospital at Mafeteng	5,217
Hlotse Bridge	4,800
Cottage Hospital at Quthing	504
New Police stable at Leribe	400

All the above-mentioned public buildings were constructed of sandstone, and consequently are solid and durable buildings, and are superior in class to those of past years.

I have, &c.,

H. W. GIBSON,
Inspector of Works,
Basutoland.

His Honour
The Resident Commissioner of
Basutoland.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
598	Gibraltar	1908
599	Falkland Islands	"
600	Uganda	1907–1908
601	Imperial Institute	1908
602	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
603	Ashanti	"
604	Ceylon	"
605	Weihaiwei	"
606	Seychelles	"
607	Jamaica	1907–1908
608	Colonial Survey Committee	1908–1909
609	Gambia	1908
610	Malta	1908–1909
611	Sierra Leone	1908
612	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
613	Gold Coast	"
614	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1908–1909
615	Bahamas	"
616	St. Lucia	1908
617	Hong Kong	"
618	Fiji	"
619	Nyasaland	1908–1909
620	Barbados	"
621	Trinidad and Tobago	"
622	Straits Settlements	1908
623	Somaliland	1908–1909
624	Mauritius	1908
625	St. Vincent	1908–1909
626	Jamaica	"
627	Swaziland	"
628	Grenada	1908
629	Leeward Islands	1908–1909
630	Southern Nigeria	1908
631	British Honduras	"
632	British Guiana	1908–1909
633	Northern Nigeria	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
62	Uganda Protectorate	Cotton Industry.
63	Imperial Institute	Gums and Resins.
64	Uganda Protectorate	Botany and Forestry.
65	Do. do.	Sleeping Sickness.
66	Gold Coast	Forests.
67	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1905–6.
68	Do. do.	do. 1906–7.
69	St. Helena	Fisheries.
70	List of Colonial Laws	Patents, Trade Marks, &c.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 677.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1909-10.

(For Report for 1908-9, *see* No. 634.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

June, 1911.

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No. 677.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Reports for 1908-9, *see* No. 634.)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR SOUTH AFRICA TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Cape Town.
April 12th, 1911.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland, forwarding the Report on the annual Blue Book for the territory for the year ended June 30th, 1910.

I have, &c.,

GLADSTONE,
High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Maseru.
March 24th, 1911.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to return the Report on the annual Blue Book for Basutoland for the year ended 30th June, 1910.

I have, &c.,

H. C. SLOLEY,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency
The Right Honourable
Viscount Gladstone, P.C., G.C.M.G.,
High Commissioner for South Africa.

(20144—2.) Wt. 31959—459. 1125 & 85. 6/11. D & S. A 2

REPORT ON BASUTOLAND BLUE BOOK.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue of Basutoland for the year ending 30th June, 1910, amounted to £119,974, being an increase of £11,336 as compared with the revenue for the previous financial year.

The principal increases were under the heads of Hut Tax, Customs, and Post Office.

Subjoined are comparative statements of revenue and expenditure for the years 1908-09 and 1909-10.

Revenue.

—	1908–9.	1909–10.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Hut Tax	65,059	69,601	4,542	—
Post Office	3,441	4,012	571	—
Licences	4,232	4,021	—	211
Fees of Court or Office ...	238	278	40	—
Miscellaneous	1,872	1,717	—	155
Customs	30,060	35,976	5,916	—
Interest	3,736	4,369	633	—
Total	108,638	119,974	11,702	366

Expenditure.

Heads of Service.	1908–9.	1909–10.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Establishments	14,184	12,618	—	1,566
2. Police	17,977	18,361	384	—
3. Post Office	4,024	4,685	661	—
4. Allowances to Chiefs and Headmen.	5,782	6,042	260	—
5. Medical Expenses	352	787	435	—
6. Office Contingencies ...	1,211	1,216	5	—
7. Revenue Services	422	398	—	24
8. Administration of Justice...	2,718	2,864	146	—
9. Transport	145	58	—	87
10. Public Works	35,773	28,195	—	7,578
11. Hospitals	7,304	10,836	3,532	—
12. Education	10,631	12,241	1,610	—
13. Rewards for Special Services.	80	75	—	5

Heads of Service.	1908–9.	1909–10.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
14. Audit	304	357	53	—
15. Miscellaneous	4,918	3,039	—	1,879
16. Agriculture	9,127	7,024	—	2,103
17. National Council	372	490	118	—
18. Pensions	—	2,158	2,158	—
Total Expenditure chargeable to General Revenue.	115,324	111,444	9,362	13,242
Capital Expenditure from Surplus Balances.	11,597	15,993	4,396	—
Total	126,921	127,437	13,758	13,242

The ordinary expenditure for 1909-10 amounted to £111,444, to which, however, must be added £15,993 extraordinary expenditure met from surplus balances under special authority from the Secretary of State. Both revenue and expenditure have been rising steadily in the territory for some years, as will be seen from the attached comparative statement for five years past.

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1905-06	98,515	93,334
1906-07	111,904	108,833
1907-08	116,530	126,604
1908-09	108,638	126,921
1909-10	119,974	127,437

The expenditure for the last two years includes capital expenditure from surplus balances, amounting to £27,590.

The actual state of the Basutoland finances on the 30th June, 1910, is shown in the following tables of assets and liabilities:—

Statement of Assets and Liabilities, 30th June, 1910.

Assets:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Balance at Standard Bank, Maseru ...	4,190	19	9
Balances in hands of sub-Accountants ...	916	15	3
Balance in hands of Crown Agents ...	1,546	14	0
Fixed deposit with Standard Bank ...	40,000	0	0
Loan to Swaziland Administration ...	80,000	0	0
Advances recoverable	83	7	3
Total	£126,737	16	3

Liabilities:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Deposits from Labour Agents	1,200	0	0
Balances of assets in excess of liabilities ...	125,537	16	3
Total	£126,737	16	3

The loan of £80,000 to the Swaziland Administration referred to, was at the rate of three and a-half per cent., repayable in twenty-five years. The deposits by labour agents mentioned are the various sums of £100 each deposited as security for good behaviour by labour agents in terms of Proclamation No. 27 of 1909 by His Excellency the High Commissioner.

British sterling and the coinage of the late South African Republic are legal tender, and accounts are kept in British sterling.

The Standard Bank of South Africa has opened a branch office at Maseru.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND STOCK-BREEDING.

It is to be noted that since 1905 the Customs year ends on the 31st December, and not on the 30th June as does the financial year.

A table is given herewith showing the imports and exports of the Territory, in detail, of the principal heads:—

Return of Exports for year ended 31st December, 1909.

	Quantity.	Value. £
Animals, living:—		
Horses	482	7,638
Cattle	1,313	9,813
Mules and donkeys	15	99
Sheep and goats	169	126
All other	—	185
Articles of food and drink:—	lbs.	
Beans and peas	812,883	1,903
Kaffir corn	1,382,415	3,820
Maize	36,431,349	75,201
Oats	835,618	2,036
Wheat	12,511,009	48,979
All other, N.O.D.	905,394	4,346
Eggs, meat, &c.	—	248
Produce:—		
Hair, Angora	1,455,943	49,721
Wool, sheep's	6,960,675	139,022
Hides and skins:—		
Hides, cattle	22,975	543
Skins, sheep and goats'	121,147	2,112
All other articles	—	4,092
		£349,884

Return of Imports for the Year ended 31st December, 1909.

	£
Animals (horses, cattle, sheep, &c.)	4,120
Apparel, slops, &c.	12,773
Bags of all sorts	10,583
Beads of all sorts	807
Cotton piece-goods	18,244
Cotton manufactures	12,094
Food and drink (articles of)	31,540
Haberdashery and millinery	13,048
Hardware and cutlery, fencing material, &c. ...	6,013
Hats and caps	740
Implements (agricultural)	4,844
Iron manufactures	2,379
Leather and leather manufactures—including boots and shoes	16,495
Soap, all kinds	4,439
Vehicles of all sorts	3,379
Wood (manufactured and unmanufactured) ...	3,780
Woollen manufactures—including blankets and shawls	84,830
All other articles of merchandise	24,096
	254,204
Articles for the use of the Government	4,790
	£258,994

Exports showed an increase of £156,762 compared with 1908, and Angora hair (mohair) and sheep's wool show, respectively, an increase of 60 per cent. and 66 per cent. At the same time it is not clear that this increase is all current gain, as it seems likely that, owing to low market prices at the end of 1908, some wool and hair was brought forward and sold in 1909.

The considerable increase in wheat and maize exported, as shown above, is principally grain harvested in the early half of 1909, and has nothing to do with the crops grown in the financial year 1909-10. A comparative statement of imports and exports for the last four years may prove interesting, as showing the almost continuous rise in both figures:—

	Imports. £	Exports. £
30th June, 1906	191,701	172,496
31st December, 1906	242,353	185,155
31st December, 1907	238,599	248,541
31st December, 1908	239,830	193,122
31st December, 1909	258,994	349,884

Stock-breeding.

Basutoland is before all things a stock-breeding country, though the stock-farming of the Basuto in the past has been of the rudest description.

The Government has for some years past interested itself generally in the question; but of late, under the superintendence of the Principal Veterinary Surgeon, large strides have been taken towards improving the stock of the country by distribution of well-bred sheep and goat rams to stockowners throughout the Territory, and by the introduction of stallions, picked carefully, as being suitable for the country mares.

The results as regards wool and mohair have already become evident, though there is still great room for improvement. As to horse-breeding, the results can hardly be expected to show yet, but in a few years a considerable improvement may be looked for. No direct attempt has, for many reasons, been made to improve the breed of cattle.

Possibly, with the disappearance of East Coast fever from South Africa and with changed local conditions as to cattle values in the Territory, some assistance may become advisable. For the present it does not appear that any counter-balancing gain would accrue from efforts to improve the breed of cattle in Basutoland, beyond the encouragement given to every class of stock and produce by the presentation of prizes at the Agricultural Shows held every year at each Government station in the country.

Sporadic cases of the usual stock diseases have occurred here and there during the year, but, generally speaking, the country has been remarkably free from disease.

Three outbreaks of glanders, however, were much more serious, and though these outbreaks were successfully and, it is hoped, thoroughly dealt with, we must, of course, keep ourselves keenly on the look-out for a recrudescence of this persistent relic of the late war.

The Basutoland position as regards East Coast fever becomes more serious year by year. The disease still spreads in Natal towards this border, and is now creating a very serious position in the Cape Colony. The Basutoland-Natal border is most favourable for restrictive measures, consisting as it does, throughout the greater part, of perpendicular precipices, while the natives on either side have little or no intercourse with each other, even in ordinary times. All known passes have been closed or destroyed, guards have been set over them and every means which experience can suggest has been adopted to make a successful fight against the disease.

On the Basutoland-Cape Colony side, however, matters are very different; the country is much more open than on the Natal border; the mountain passes are lower; in fact, in the greater part of its length it presents few difficulties to the introduction of cattle.

Since the great campaign against locusts in 1908, I am glad to say that the Territory has been free of the pest, and from reports received from different parts of South Africa there does not seem much likelihood of an invasion in the coming year.

EDUCATION.

In educational matters some progress has been made in carrying out the suggestions of Mr. E. B. Sargant in his report of 1905-06.

In August, 1909, the Central Board of Advice on Educational Matters, which had been recommended by Mr. Sargant, sat at Maseru. It was preceded by an informal meeting of missionaries, at which a new syllabus much resembling that suggested on pages 200 and 201 of Mr. Sargant's report, was decided on.

It is too soon yet to judge how this new syllabus will work, but it certainly appears that it will do much to direct native teaching into more intelligent paths.

Enrolment of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	No. of pupils on roll, December, 1909			No. of pupils on roll, December, 1908.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Missionary Society.	4,993	6,044	11,037	4,651	5,176	9,827
Church of England ...	646	844	1,490	605	662	1,267
Roman Catholic ...	185	667	852	109	567	676
Total	5,824	7,555	13,379	5,365	6,405	11,770

The average attendance was—boys, 4,126; girls, 5,592; total, 9,718 with 352 teachers.

There are not many white children, comparatively speaking, in Basutoland, and an inquiry has shown that in only eight cases was the provision made by the parents for their children's education unsatisfactory.

A sum amounting to £12,240 15*s.* 4*d.* was expended by the Government on education during the financial year 1909-10.

MEDICAL.

The work done in the public dispensaries is most gratifying—a total of 37,000 cases having been treated during the year.

There have been new hospitals opened at Mafeteng and Mohale's Hoek during the year. The beds in both have been fully occupied, and there is no doubt that these institutions will prove as useful to their respective districts as the hospitals of Maseru and Leribe have already proved to North Basutoland.

A small hospital was completed at Moyeni, in Quthing District, but owing to the temporary absence of the medical officer has not yet been opened.

Maseru hospital has been enlarged to accommodate forty beds, which are fully occupied, and has been fitted with a good installation of electric light.

The question of leprosy, which has been drawing attention all over South Africa, is receiving attention in Basutoland also.

The number of beds in each hospital are as under:—

Leribe	20
Maseru	40
Mafeteng	24
Mohale's Hoek	20
Quthing	8
Total	112

LEGISLATION.

His Excellency the High Commissioner issued seven Proclamations and six Notices having reference to Basutoland during the year. Among the most important were:—

1. A Proclamation dealing more stringently with liquor smuggling in the territory.*
2. A Proclamation embodying and revising existing regulations and instructions, determining the constitution, powers, and procedure of the Basutoland Council.*
3. A Proclamation embodying the substance of existing rules governing appointments to, and promotion in, the public service of Basutoland.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

All hospitals and dispensaries at Government stations in Basutoland are under the management of Government medical officers.

Gaols.

There are seven gaols and two lock-ups in the territory, and 432 prisoners passed through them during the year, there being 151 prisoners confined in them on June 30th, 1910, which was an increase of 19 on those in gaol on 30th June, 1909.

Post Office.

There are post offices at Leribe, Maseru, Teyateyaneng, Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek, and Quthing, at all of which postal, telegraph, money order, and savings bank work is carried on. There are also sub-offices at Butha Buthe, Peka, Siloe, and Qacha's Nek, for ordinary postal work.

Throughout the territory during the year there were 14,506 money and postal orders issued at a value of £17,732, while 10,946 orders were paid amounting to £17,579.

* These proclamations are printed on pages 179–182 of [Cd. 5582].

Stamps to the value of £2,625 4*s.* 6*d.* were sold, while £3,008 7*s.* 6*d.* was deposited in, and £2,058 6*s.* was withdrawn from, the savings bank.

Telegraph and cable revenue amounted to £1,149 3*s.*

There is a telephone line throughout the country. It is not used by the public, being retained entirely for Government work.

A branch of the South African Railway from Marseilles crosses the border at Maseru and runs into Maseru station, about one and a half miles within the territory.

For many years past the Cape Colony Government has most courteously rendered invaluable assistance by supervising and administering the postal service of the territory, though the local postal officials are in the service of the Basutoland Government.

Since the taking effect of the South African Union Act this plan, I am glad to say, has been continued by the Union Government to the great benefit of the public in Basutoland.

A native industrial school which is partially self-supporting has been established at Maseru. Stone-cutting, fitting, wagon-building, blacksmithing, and carpentry are taught at this school, which appears to be doing fairly well.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The past year has not been marked by any big undertaking from current expenditure, under which head £28,195 was spent. An extension of Mafeteng waterworks at a cost of £1,000 has been completed, and a number of repairs have been carried out and smaller new buildings, which have become necessary, have been built from current revenue, while roads have been repaired and improved throughout the country, and a small bridge across the Khomokhoana River was also built and completed.

Under capital expenditure from surplus balances the following works were commenced and carried on.

A sum of £4,566 was spent during the year on a new hospital at Mohale's Hoek—£1,464 having been spent in the previous year, making £6,030 in all.

Some £2,000 has been spent on the Phutiatsana bridge, which is still unfinished.

The Mekhaleng bridge, which is nearly finished, was commenced at the end of 1908-09. It will have cost some £7,000 when completed.

The new hospital at Mafeteng, which was practically finished at the commencement of the year, was completely finished early in 1909-10, and cost in all £5,476, being slightly below the estimate.

The extension to Maseru hospital referred to above is still unfinished—£800 out of the estimated £1,200 having been spent.

It has been proposed, but not yet decided, to build a stone and iron bridge over the Caledon River at or near Peka. The bridge—should the undertaking be found practicable—will be an immense assistance in the transport of grain from Southern Leribe district and Berea to the railway.

With this bridge, the northern system of bridges would be complete, as at present projected. South Basutoland does not, perhaps, call for bridges to the same extent as the north of the territory. One bridge, however, over the Makhaleng River, has proved a great boon, and possibly in time others may follow.

CRIMINAL AND POLICE.

The police force, which is composed of white officers with native non-commissioned officers and men, is fully mounted and equipped, and is posted round the borders of Basutoland—principally at the various magistracies where the Assistant Commissioners of the districts hold their courts.

The officers, in addition to their police duties, do clerical work in the offices of the Assistant Commissioners of their districts.

The non-commissioned officers and men are all natives, and find their own horses and rations; their pay varies from £2 per month to £5, together with uniform, arms, and saddlery equipment in every case.

The police to-day consists of:—

White officers	12
White constables	5
Native constables	4
Native officers	4
Native sergeants	8
Native corporals	12
First and second class privates	247
Total	292

In addition to the above force, which does its work fearlessly and well, undergoing on occasion considerable hardship and exposure, the exigencies of East Coast fever on the Natal and East Griqualand borders have necessitated the enlistment of some 117 special native police. These men are picketed throughout the long mountain border at weak points in the defence, and there, stiffened by a backbone of regular police, they do work and undergo on occasions hardships such as do not often fall to the lot of South African police. To give an idea of their difficulties, I may mention that dangerously heavy snow and occasional frost bites are recurrent events, which certainly seem out of place in 30 degrees south latitude.

This rigorous climate is, of course, due to the altitude at which their work is carried on, the passes they guard being anywhere from 6,000 to 10,000 feet above sea-level.

The special police are not provided with uniform, but receive great coat, blanket, and boots, while wearing a brass official badge on the left arm when on duty.

In the lower-lying country on the western face of the Territory the regular police are kept busy with general police work.

It does not appear that the amount of liquor smuggled into the country has increased much, if at all, of late years, but a comparative table of arrests during five years, for liquor smuggling, shows how the police have by degrees begun to get the better of it:—

	Arrests.
1905-6	22
1906-7	32
1907-8	67
1908-9	79
1909-10	90

A good deal of liquor, of course, still gets through unintercepted, but smuggling is now recognised by those indulging in it as a dangerous undertaking, and one, moreover, which the general opinion of the tribe is against.

There were 484 cases brought before the Assistant Commissioners' Courts, of which 479 were dealt with summarily, while five were committed for trial by a Superior Court.

Homicide	22
Other offences against the person	26
Offences against property	73
Offences against Revenue and Pass Laws	207
Other offences	156
Total	484

The great increase in manslaughter cases is due to several small intertribal quarrels, which have been referred to elsewhere.

It is encouraging to see that the offence of resisting police is less common than it was.

In one case sentence of death was passed and carried out on a native who murdered his concubine.

Wilful murder is not at all a common offence among the Basuto, and the above is, in point of fact, only the second execution since the assumption of control in Basutoland by the Imperial Government in March, 1884.

GENERAL.

The population of Basutoland at the Census in 1904 amounted to nearly 348,000 natives and some 1,500 white and coloured.

Allowing for 20,000 native men away working at the mines and elsewhere, the sexes appear to have been almost exactly equal in numbers.

The past year, as a whole, may be taken to have been a peaceful and prosperous one. The satisfactory state of affairs is reflected not only in the commercial figures for the Territory but in the returns of passes issued to natives (1) for work outside Basutoland, and (2) for private business, visiting, &c.

Passes for labour have increased from 68,900 last year to 82,000 this year, and visiting passes have increased also from 43,700 to 55,300.

Such an increase in labour passes means a very considerable addition to the prosperity of the tribe.

The Transvaal mines seem to continue popular with the Basuto mining labourers, but this year Kimberley and the Orange Free State diamond mines have proved formidable rivals.

Of the 82,000 men who went to work, 32,000 were despatched to the mines in the Orange Free State and Transvaal; a further 30,000 took passes for what is described as "miscellaneous" work.

These men travel about as free lances, accepting work where the terms seem good. In a large number of cases they eventually drift to the labour centres and join the mass of their countrymen who are at work on the mines.

A meeting of the Basutoland Council, lasting about three weeks, was held in the new Council House in March, where much useful business of an advisory nature was done.

At the request of the High Commissioner an ethnological collection of articles illustrative of native life and customs among the Basuto in Basutoland was got together and presented by the Administration to the Natal Government Museum, where, it is understood from the Director, it is much valued as a memorial of times and customs now passing rapidly away.

The visit of Halley's Comet caused some interest, but no real tendency was observed among the natives to construe it into a portent of coming events, whether good or bad.

The average rainfall at all Basutoland stations amounted to 33·28 inches, which is much below a satisfactory average. The mean maximum and minimum temperatures throughout the Territory were 72·7 degrees and 41·6 degrees, respectively.

The country has been quiet throughout the year, with the exception of some small local quarrels which mostly occurred in Leribe District, where young chiefs have quarrelled over boundary lines. These small quarrels, wrong though they are and much to be condemned, must not be taken to have any political significance, or to be in any way referable to what is called "unrest among the Basuto." They have in every case been dealt with judicially, and the young chiefs and their followers responsible for the disturbances have been imprisoned and fined.

A regrettable feature of the year has been the number of tribal fights in which Basutoland natives have been embroiled at the mining centres. These disturbances have formed the subject of much discussion in the Basutoland Council, where all members promised to use their influence with the young men going out to work to prevent their participation in such disturbances while at the mines.

L. WROUGHTON,

Government Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
638	St. Helena	1909
639	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
640	Ashanti	"
641	Gambia...	"
642	Malta	1909–1910
643	Seychelles	1909
644	Colonial Survey Committee...	1909–1910
645	Falkland Islands	"
646	Turks and Caicos Islands	1909
647	Gibraltar	"
648	Sierra Leone	"
649	Somaliland	1909–1910
650	Bahamas	"
651	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
652	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
653	Ceylon	1909
654	Gold Coast	"
655	Nyasaland	1909–1910
656	Imperial Institute	1909
657	Fiji	"
658	Grenada	"
659	Hong Kong	"
660	Barbados	1909–1910
661	Swaziland	1909
662	Jamaica	"
663	Straits Settlements	"
664	Trinidad and Tobago	1909–1910
665	Southern Nigeria	1909
666	Mauritius	"
667	British Honduras	"
668	St. Vincent	1909–1910
669	East Africa Protectorate	"
670	Uganda...	"
671	British Guiana	"
672	St. Lucia	1909
673	Leeward Islands	1909–1910
674	Northern Nigeria	1909
675	St. Helena	1910
676	Gibraltar	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
67	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1905–6.
68	Do. do.	Do. 1906–7.
69	St. Helena	Fisheries.
70	Colonies	List of Laws relating to Patents, Trade Marks, &c.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Surveys, 1906–7 and 1907–8.
75	West Indies...	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.

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1911.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 710.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1910-11.

(For Report for 1909–10, *see* No. 677.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
March, 1912.

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No. 710.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1909–10, *see* No. 677.)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

High Commissioner's Office,
Cape Town.
31st January, 1912.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from the Acting Resident Commissioner of Basutoland, forwarding a Report on the annual Blue Book for the territory for the year ended June 30th, 1911.

I have, &c.,
GLADSTONE,
High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.
Colonial Office.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Maseru.
January 15th, 1912.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward for Your Lordship's information the accompanying general Report on the annual Blue Book for Basutoland for the year ended 30th June, 1911.

I have, &c.,
L. WROUGHTON,
Acting Resident
Commissioner.

His Excellency,
The Right Honourable,
The Viscount Gladstone, P.C., G.C.M.G.,
High Commissioner for South Africa.

(23189—2.) Wt. 29478—571. 1125 & 85. 3/12. D & S. A 2

BASUTOLAND ANNUAL REPORT.—1910-11.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue of the territory for the year ended 30th June, 1911, shows an increase over the previous year's revenue of £25,526, and amounted to £145,500. Below are given statements showing the revenue and expenditure of the last two years. It will be seen that the principal causes of the increase in revenue are due to the operation of the new native tax law* and to an adjustment of this territory's share of Customs duties under the Union of South Africa.

The expenditure for the year amounted to £134,888, of which £12,125 was extraordinary, being capital expenditure from surplus balances. The increase of total expenditure over last year amounts to £7,451.

STATEMENT OF THE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS.

Revenue.

	1909–10.	1910–11.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Native Tax	69,601	84,175	14,574	—
Post Office	4,012	3,775	—	237
Licences	4,021	5,852	1,831	—
Fees of Court	278	344	66	—
Miscellaneous	1,717	2,260	543	—
Customs	35,976	45,029	9,053	—
Interest	4,369	4,066	—	303
Total	119,974	145,501	26,067	540

Expenditure.

Heads of Service.	1909–10.	1910–11.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Establishments	12,618	13,740	1,122	—
Police	18,361	18,114	—	247
Post Office	4,685	4,378	—	307
Allowances to Chiefs and Headmen ...	6,042	6,376	334	—
Medical Expenses	787	642	—	145
Office Contingencies	1,216	1,154	—	62
Revenue Services	398	112	—	286

* *Colonial Office Note.*—By the new native tax proclamation the hut tax has been abolished, and a tax on adult males of £1 per annum substituted. If an adult male native has more than one wife by native custom, he pays £1 per annum for each wife up to a maximum payment of £3 per annum for himself and his wives.

Heads of Service.	1909-10.	1910-11.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Administration of Justice	2,864	2,822	—	42
Transport	58	—	—	58
Public Works	28,195	32,401	4,206	—
Hospitals	10,836	9,868	—	968
Education	12,241	12,385	144	—
Rewards for Special Services	75	64	—	11
Audit	357	355	—	2
Miscellaneous	3,039	7,079	4,040	—
Agriculture...	7,024	10,429	3,405	—
National Council	490	818	328	—
Pensions	2,158	2,025	—	133
Total	111,444	122,762	13,579	2,203
Capital Expenditure from Surplus Balances.	15,993	12,125	—	3,868
Total	127,437	134,888	13,579	6,071

The following is a comparative statement of revenue and expenditure for the last five years:—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure*
	£	£
1906-07	111,904	108,833
1907-08	116,530	126,604
1908-09	108,638	126,921
1909-10	119,974	127,437
1910-11	145,501	134,888

The expenditure for the last five years includes capital expenditure from surplus balances, under special authority from the Secretary of State, to the extent of £39,714, which has mostly been spent on well-bred stallions and rams, sheep-dipping stations, and bridges.

Subjoined is a table showing the actual state of Basutoland finances at 30th June, 1911.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

Assets.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Balance at Standard Bank, Maseru	6,302	10	6
Balances in hands of Crown Agents	781	6	6
Balances in hands of Sub-Accountants	1,585	8	6
On fixed deposit with Standard Bank	45,000	0	0
On deposit at Crown Agents at call	2,000	0	0
On loan to Swaziland Administration	80,000	0	0
Advances recoverable from other Administrations	81	6	11
Remittances in transit	2,000	0	0
Total	£137,750	12	5

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.
Deposits from Labour Agents	1,600	0	0
Balance of Assets in excess of Liabilities ...	136,150	12	5
Total	£137,750	12	5

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND STOCK-BREEDING.

Trade.

Owing to the new arrangement by which Basutoland receives annually a proportionate share of Customs duties from the Union Government, no figures are available to show the exports and imports of the territory in detail.

Both maize and wheat crops fell much below the average during the year. Owing to severe droughts during December, January, and February, 1910, in some parts of the country the maize crop was a total failure. An attempt was made to introduce soya beans into Basutoland, it being thought that they might prove of considerable commercial value to the natives should they do well. Unfortunately, however, want of rain rendered the experiment abortive. It is hoped that should further attempts be made to introduce the bean, they will meet with better success. The beans did well till destroyed by the drought, and it may be that under more favourable climatic conditions they will be a success.

Stock-Breeding.

Under the superintendence of the Principal Veterinary Surgeon, 286 merino sheep rams and 140 Angora goat rams were purchased by the Government during the year and distributed throughout the territory. These rams were selected from the flocks of some of the best breeders in South Africa, and it is thought that if those who have received them do their duty by them they will make a considerable improvement in the wool and mohair exports of the territory.

The attempts to improve the breed of horses in Basutoland appear to be meeting with moderate success. The returns of the year for foals born from mares brought to Government stallions show, on the whole, better results than in previous years, but they are by no means satisfactory, the spring droughts and the rough treatment of mares being largely responsible for the difficulty which is experienced in obtaining good percentage of foals. It is, however, gratifying to note that many native owners of foals from the well-bred Government sires show an increasing tendency to treat these animals well, a tendency which the Agricultural Shows held annually in each district tend greatly to encourage. A considerable desire to bring their mares to Government stallions is shown by the native owners.

The country has not suffered to any great extent during the past year from stock diseases. No case of glanders has occurred,

and, with the exception of sheep-scab, other stock diseases have not been as prevalent as usual.

With regard to scab amongst sheep, it is unfortunately the case that this curse of the sheep farmer is very prevalent in Basutoland. With a view to assisting the natives to free their flocks from this pest, dipping tanks have been established at various centres throughout the country, to which natives are encouraged to bring their sheep to be dipped. A mere nominal charge is made for this. There are at present 15 of these tanks erected, where 82,927 sheep were dipped last year, and it is hoped that more tanks will be erected shortly, especially in the mountain areas, where there are a great number of sheep, though owing to transport and other difficulties the work necessarily proceeds slowly.

The country has been entirely free from locusts this year.

The position as regards East Coast fever is still very serious, and must remain so while centres of infection exist in East Griqualand and Natal. The Natal and East Griqualand borders have been rigidly guarded and all outbreaks of bovine diseases thoroughly investigated by stock inspectors stationed on the border for the purpose.

EDUCATION.

It is satisfactory to note that the average attendance of pupils in Basutoland schools, after remaining almost stationary for the past three or four years, has, during the year under review, made a considerable advance.

Enrolment of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	No. of Pupils on Roll, December, 1909.			No. of Pupils on Roll, December, 1910.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
P.E.M.S.	4,993	6,044	11,037	5,285	7,325	12,610
Church of England ...	646	844	1,490	823	976	1,799
Roman Catholic ...	185	667	852	179	809	988
Total	5,824	7,555	13,379	6,287	9,110	15,397

The advance is not confined to the larger schools in favoured positions, but is largely due to the increasing attendance in remote and backward portions of the territory.

The average attendance was—boys, 4,685, girls, 6,497; total, 11,182, with 399 teachers. A steady improvement is also taking place in the type of instruction given in the schools. The range of subjects taught has not been greatly widened, but teachers are beginning to acquire a deeper insight into the minds of native children, and the subjects themselves are taught with an increasing thoroughness.

MEDICAL.

The number of patients treated during the year in the Government hospitals and dispensaries shows a considerable increase over the previous year. The in-patients treated amounted to 1,732, and out-patients to 43,961, of whom 9,500 attended at the dispensaries more than once. During the year the Principal Medical Officer made a tour of inspection of the hospitals and dispensaries throughout the territory, and reports very favourably on the work done, both as regards quantity and efficiency.

The small hospital at Quthing mentioned in last year's report as not having been opened owing to the temporary absence of the medical officer has now been opened and has been much appreciated in the district.

A table showing the number of beds in each hospital was given in last year's report.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health of the territory has been good and no epidemics of any importance have occurred. Small-pox broke out in the Quthing district but was confined to one village. The infection was traced to the Cape Province, and steps were immediately taken to secure vaccination of those leaving the country, certificates of vaccination being demanded of those requiring passes. The important subject of leprosy has been under consideration during the past year. Suggestions for the establishment of a leper settlement were laid before the meeting of the Basutoland Council in May. These were most favourably received and have been generally approved by His Excellency the High Commissioner. The selection of a suitable site for a leper settlement will, perhaps, prove difficult, but it is hoped that the question will be satisfactorily settled before long. The health of the police and convicts has been good.

LEGISLATION.

His Excellency the High Commissioner published 12 Proclamations and 25 Notices having reference to Basutoland during the year. Among the most important were:—

1. Proclamation of the accession of His Majesty King George the Fifth.
2. Native Tax Proclamation.
3. Marriage Proclamation.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Post Office.

There are Post Offices at Leribe, Teyateyaneng, Maseru, Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek, and Quthing, at which all postal and telegraph work is done, with money order and savings bank business. Peka, Butha Buthe, Siloe, and Qacha's Nek are sub-offices for ordinary postal work. Throughout Basutoland £2,894 11*s.* 3*d.* worth of postage stamps were sold during the year, being an increase of £269 6*s.* 9*d.* over the previous year.

The following comparative table shows the amount of money orders and postal orders issued and paid during the last two years.

—	Issued.		Paid.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
		£		£
1910–1911	17,343	21,441	13,493	23,907
1909–1910	14,506	17,732	10,946	17,579

Savings bank deposits totalled £4,689, and withdrawals £2,844 in 1910-11, as compared with £3,008 and £2,058, respectively, in 1909-10. Telegraph and cable revenue amounted to £1,143 15*s.* 8*d.*

The Government telephone and telegraph lines which run through the country, connecting the different district stations with headquarters at Maseru, were this year overhauled and put into good working order with the kind assistance of the Union Postal Department.

The native industrial school at Maseru has progressed satisfactorily during the year, the number of pupils being 70. Work has been fairly plentiful, and the various departments of masonry, wagon making, engineering smith's, and carpentry have been kept busy. A small profit has been made on the year's working.

As mentioned in last year's report a branch of the South African Railway from Marseilles runs to Maseru station, about one and a half miles within the territory. This remains unchanged.

Gaols.

There are seven gaols and two lock-ups in Basutoland, and during the year 716 prisoners passed through them, compared with 432 in the previous year. On 30th June, 1911, 163 were confined in gaol, being an increase of 12 on those in gaol on 30th June, 1910.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

All hospitals and dispensaries at Government stations in Basutoland are under the management of Government Medical Officers. Further information on this subject will be found under the head "Medical."

PUBLIC WORKS.

The bridge over the Mekhaleng River in the Mohale's Hoek District, mentioned as unfinished in last year's report, has now been completed, together with the bridge over the Phuthiatsana River at the boundary of the Leribe and Berea Districts. A small bridge over the Khomokhoana River in the Leribe District has also been erected, and these bridges have proved of great value in rendering more stable the conditions of travelling. A sum of £18,997 has been spent in the maintenance and repair of the roads in the territory, the average condition of which has improved considerably. The extension to Maseru hospital has now been completed, and the electric light which has been installed throughout the buildings has proved a complete success and is much appreciated by the doctors and staff. A small gaol has been built at Butha Buthe.

CRIME AND POLICE.

The police of the territory may be divided into two forces, (1) the regular police, who are fully clothed and equipped, (2) special East Coast Fever police, who are ununiformed with the exception of an arm badge. Both forces work together and are all mounted. It has been found that a few special police, stiffened by one or two regulars, may be depended on to do excellent work under very trying circumstances.

The strength of the total force on 30th June, 1910, was:—

European Inspectors	4
,, Sub-Inspectors	9
Native Officers	2
,, Constables	5
,, Sergeants	8
,, Corporals	13
,, Privates	247
Special Native Police	199
European Constables	6

The police have been fairly successful in their attempts to cope with the brandy smugglers on the Cape and Free State borders.

This year again the number of convictions obtained has exceeded those in any one year in the past. There is, however, no doubt that much liquor still gets into the country undetected.

Public opinion among the Basuto in general appears to be against the illicit traffic, but is not sufficiently strong to induce the people to side actively with the Government in suppressing it.

The following shows the arrests for liquor smuggling during the last five years:—

1906-7	32
1907-8	67
1908-9	79
1909-10	90
1910-11	148

There were 710 cases brought before the Assistant Commissioners' Courts, of which 636 were dealt with summarily, while 74 were committed for trial by a Superior Court.

In one case sentence of death was passed and carried out on a native who murdered his uncle in cold blood.

It is regrettable to have to report that such crimes of violence seem to be on the increase in Basutoland. On the other hand, during the past year there have been fewer tribal disturbances than usual, and though, of course, occasional land and other quarrels have occurred the disputants have not resorted to violence, as has been frequently the case of late years. The turbulent behaviour of some of the younger chiefs was much blamed by the older members of the Council during the last session, while His Excellency's remarks on the subject at the Pitso in May have undoubtedly had a considerable effect.

GENERAL

The two principal occurrences of the year were His Excellency the High Commissioner's official visit to the territory, and the Census of the inhabitants.

His Excellency's visit in May, 1911, was made the occasion of a very large gathering of the Basuto at Maseru. His train, on arrival, was met at the station by the officials, the Paramount Chief, and some 20,000 mounted natives, who lined a large portion of the road to Maseru.

His Excellency attended the Basutoland Council, which was in session at the time in the new buildings, and, after formal speeches, adjourned the meeting till after his departure from Maseru.

The next day a review of some 25,000 to 30,000 men, mostly mounted, was held on the racecourse, at which Their Excellencies received a most enthusiastic reception. At the Pitso (public meeting) which followed the principal chiefs declared their loyalty to His Majesty and His Government, to which his Excellency replied, advising and urging the Basuto to be law abiding and obedient to the officers over them, to refrain from using firearms in their disputes, and generally to merit the protection which had been so long extended to them by His Majesty's Government.

The meeting, which had an excellent effect, then broke up amidst shouts of "Khotso," "Pula"—("peace," "rain,") and the people left for their homes while Their Excellencies travelled on horseback through northern Basutoland, visiting the Missions and inspecting the Government stations on the way.

A Census of the inhabitants of the territory was taken by the Government during the two weeks beginning the night of the 23rd April and ending on the 7th May. Native enumerators were used throughout. The various Missions in the country very kindly closed their schools and placed their native teachers at the disposal of the Government as enumerators. These men were supervised by the European District Officers, and the result was distinctly satisfactory. The forms used were more elaborate and the information called for was considerably more advanced

than that required on former occasions. The result was very satisfactory considering the difficulties with which the men had to deal. I give below the unaudited general return of population. This return may need some slight amendment, but in the meantime it may be taken as substantially correct. The sexes in Basutoland may be taken to be nearly equal. The men travel and go out to work far more than the women, hence the apparent difference in the totals.

The total population in 1911 amounts to 402,434, showing an increase since the Census of 1904 of 54,703 or approximately 15·73 per cent. in seven years.

Males under 21, 118,210; females under 21, 129,061. Males over 21, 65,031; females over 21, 90,132. Total males, 183,241. Females (total), 219,193. Unaudited grand total, 402,434.

The total number of passes to natives to leave the territory granted during the year amounted to 135,700, as against 138,500 in the previous year. At the same time the number of men who went out to work was 84,600, which is an increase of 2,500 for the same period. The men who went out visiting or on their own business amounted to 51,100, or a decrease of about 5,000.

This decrease may be accounted for by His Excellency's visit to the territory in May. Comparatively few passes were issued at that time, the whole tribe being eager to hear what would be said by the chiefs, both white and black, at the Pitso.

At the present moment I understand that diamond mines are in the greatest favour among labourers going out for work.

BASUTOLAND COUNCIL.

The Basutoland Council has been several times referred to in this and previous reports, and a few details as to its working may prove of interest.

The duties of the Council are of an advisory nature and for the discussion of the domestic affairs of the country. It consists of 99 members (all natives) and the Paramount Chief of the tribe. Of these, 94 members are nominated by the chiefs and headmen of the tribe and approved by the Paramount Chief subject to confirmation by the Resident Commissioner. Five members are appointed by the Government.

The Council meets in the Council Hall at Maseru not less than once a year and sits for some three weeks. The Resident Commissioner is President (ex officio), the Paramount Chief occupying a raised seat in the body of the hall. The form of procedure is practically that of most bodies of a similar nature. Proceedings are formal and regular, and indiscriminate argument is not allowed. The point that would probably strike a visitor would be the courtesy and politeness with which members treat each other, as well as the moderate tone of the speeches made in the course of debate. It would seem that nervousness is a product of civilisation, for in this Council, whose members have only comparatively lately come into contact with European forms and procedure, every member speaks fluently and easily and it is practically

unknown for a speaker to stammer, hesitate, or repeat himself unconsciously. The principal fault to be found with the debates is their tendency to drag on to undue lengths, and as a result it has been found that there is always business left unfinished at the close of the session.

The Council on assembling in May, 1911, proceeded to discuss the Basutoland Council Proclamation, No. 7, of 31st March, 1910, referred to last year. It was pointed out by several speakers that if the function of the Council was to advise the Resident Commissioner on current events, it was necessary that they should be informed as to any impending Proclamations affecting the domestic affairs of the territory before they were made law, in order that, while, of course, the final decision in all cases rested the High Commissioner, the Council might have an opportunity of laying their views before him before it was too late.

The Principal Medical Officer then addressed the Council on leprosy and on the Government proposal to establish a leper settlement for Basutoland patients. The subject was one which affected every member present, and a most interesting debate took place, resulting in a large majority in favour (1) of a site being selected in the neighbourhood of Maseru sufficiently large to contain all the lepers in the territory, and (2) of a request that the Resident Commissioner should apply to the High Commissioner to authorise the necessary expenditure to carry the undertaking through successfully.

The following matters were then discussed:—The loan to Swaziland, legislation as to the importation of bees' honey, &c., the East Coast Fever Proclamation, the Public Service Proclamation, and the Proclamation of His Majesty King George the Fifth. The Council afterwards settled down to discuss the Native Tax Proclamation, No. 3, of 1911, clause by clause. The general principles of the tax were accepted without demur, but explanations were frequently called for on certain details of the Regulations, such as the levying of fines on defaulters, &c. The debate was drawn out to such length that at the end of the session it was still unfinished.

The next meeting of the Council will most probably be held towards the end of March, 1912.

L. WROUGHTON,

Government Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
680	Ashanti	1910
681	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
682	Falkland Islands	"
683	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
684	Bahamas	1910–1911
685	Colonial Survey Committee	"
686	Malta	"
687	Imperial Institute	1910
688	Gold Coast	"
689	Fiji	"
690	Somaliland	"
691	Hong Kong	"
692	Nyasaland	1910–1911
693	Seychelles	1910
694	Sierra Leone	"
695	Southern Nigeria	"
696	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1910–11
697	Swaziland	"
698	Barbados	"
699	Trinidad and Tobago	"
700	Mauritius	1910
701	Grenada	"
702	British Guiana	1910–1911
703	Jamaica	"
704	Northern Nigeria	"
705	East Africa Protectorate	"
706	British Honduras	1910
707	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
708	Uganda	1910–1911
709	Straits Settlements	1910

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Surveys 1906–7 and 1907–8.
75	West Indies	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.

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BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1911-12.

(For Report for 1910–11, *see* No. 710.)

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No. 729.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1910-11, *see* No. 710.)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

High Commissioner's Office,
Pretoria.
August 3rd, 1912.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland forwarding the Annual Report and Blue Book on the Territory for the financial year ended March 31st, 1912.

I have, &c.,

REGINALD C. HART,
High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Maseru.
July 19th, 1912.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward for your information the accompanying general Report on the annual Blue Book for Basutoland for the year ended 31st March, 1912.

I have, &c.,

H. C. SLOLEY,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency,
Lieutenant-General
Sir Reginald Hart, V.C., K.C.B., K.C.V.O.,
High Commissioner for South Africa.

(26122—2) Wt. 29478—571. 1125 & 90. 9/12. D & S. A

BASUTOLAND ANNUAL REPORT.—1911-12.

FINANCIAL.

In order to bring Basutoland into line with the rest of South Africa, the financial year has been altered to end on the 31st of March instead of on the 30th of June as heretofore. The whole of the Report is therefore for the nine months from the 30th of June, 1911, to the 31st of March, 1912.

The revenue of the Territory for the above period amounted to £138,865 and the expenditure to £111,968, which includes the sum of £5,234 as capital expenditure from surplus balances.

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS.

Revenue.

—	1910–11.	1911–12.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Native Tax	84,175	92,069	7,893	—
Post Office	3,774	3,634	—	140
Licences (including fines) ...	5,851	5,218	—	633
Fees of Court or Office ...	343	332	—	11
Miscellaneous receipts	2,259	1,793	—	466
Customs	45,029	32,169	—	12,859
Interest	4,066	3,648	—	418
Total	145,500	138,864	7,893	14,529

Expenditure.

—	1910–11.	1911–12.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Establishments	13,740	11,165	—	2,574
Police	18,114	14,521	—	3,592
Post Office	4,377	3,510	—	867
Allowances to Chiefs and Headmen.	6,376	6,108	—	267
Medical Expenses	642	761	119	—
Office Contingencies	1,153	1,396	242	—
Revenue Services	112	109	—	2
Administration of Justice ...	2,821	3,416	594	—
Public Works	32,400	32,453	52	—
Hospitals	9,868	8,116	—	1,751
Education	12,385	9,804	—	2,581
Rewards for Special Services ...	64	85	20	—
Audit	355	225	—	130
Miscellaneous	7,079	2,931	—	4,147
Agriculture	10,429	10,099	—	330
National Council	817	235	—	581
Pensions	2,025	1,792	—	233
Capital Expenditure from Surplus Balances.	12,124	5,234	—	6,890
Total	134,888	111,968	1,030	23,949

It will be noticed that under the head of "native tax" an increase of £7,894 is shown, which is due to the further operation of the new Native Tax Law which was instituted last year, and also to the registration of taxpayers which was effected during the period under report. Practically the whole of the native tax for the year was collected during this period.

The following is a comparative statement of revenue and expenditure for the last five years:—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1907-08	116,530	126,604
1908-09	108,638	126,921
1909-10	119,974	127,437
1910-11	145,401	134,888
1911-12	138,864	111,968

The expenditure for the last four years includes capital expenditure from surplus balances, under special authority from the Secretary of State, to the extent of £44,949, which has mostly been spent on the purchase of well-bred stallions and rams, sheep-dipping stations, bridges, and other buildings.

Subjoined is a table showing the Assets and Liabilities of Basutoland on 31st March, 1912.

Assets.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Balance at Standard Bank, Maseru	14,920	17	6
Balance in hands of Sub-Accountants	5,742	12	8
Balance in hands of Crown Agents	1,525	13	5
On fixed deposit with Standard Bank	60,000	0	0
On loan to Swaziland Administration	80,000	0	0
On deposit with Crown Agents	1,000	0	0
Remittances in transit	4,000	0	0
Advances recoverable from other Administrations	86	1	0
Total	£167,275	4	7

Liabilities.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Deposits from Labour Agents	1,900	0	0
Deposits from Master of Court (Estate Monies)...	2,327	15	4
Balance of Assets in excess of Liabilities ...	163,047	9	3
Total...	£167,275	4	7

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND STOCK-BREEDING.

Trade.

As stated in last year's Report it is not possible to give any figures to show in detail the exports and imports of the Territory

owing to the arrangement by which Basutoland receives annually a proportionate share of Customs duties from the Union Government.

The wheat crop, which early in the season gave promise of an excellent yield, has, unfortunately, owing to lack of rain in the summer and to a considerable amount of damage done by hail storms, not fulfilled these expectations.

The yield of maize and kafir corn was very far below the average, and it is doubtful whether there will be a sufficient quantity of these crops even for home consumption. The shortfall is undoubtedly due to the prolonged drought in the summer.

With regard to wool and mohair, there has been a steady improvement this year both in quality and quantity, which appears to show that the introduction of better blood into the country has been fully justified.

Agriculture.

With the approval of His Excellency the High Commissioner, an officer has been appointed to supervise agricultural work in the Territory and to assist the Principal Veterinary Surgeon in that direction.

It is hoped that by making it possible for natives to obtain expert advice on agricultural matters the somewhat primitive methods now generally in vogue will gradually be superseded by more up-to-date and efficient means. The duties of this officer also include work in connection with the prevention of dongas and tree planting. The erosion of the soil, which has been gradually getting worse and worse, is a serious feature in the agricultural development of the country, and the fact that Basutoland is practically devoid of trees and undergrowth renders the soil an easy prey to the torrents of water that pour over its surface in the rainy seasons.

Stock-Breeding.

With a view to assisting the natives to improve the quality of their wool and mohair, sheep and goat rams selected by the Principal Veterinary Surgeon from first-class Colonial stocks have been from time to time purchased by Government and distributed throughout the districts in Basutoland. In addition to those mentioned in last year's Report, 220 Angora goat rams and 228 Merino sheep rams have been purchased this year, and it is hoped that by these means and with careful treatment the quality of Basutoland wool and mohair will be considerably improved.

The campaign against scab in sheep is still being carried on, and an additional four dipping-tanks have been erected, making a total of 19, at which over 86,500 sheep were dipped during the year under report. The building of these tanks in the mountain areas has been attended with considerable difficulty, and it is to be regretted that native sheep-owners in those parts do not appear at present to have appreciated sufficiently the efforts made on their behalf to rid their flocks of this pest. In other districts, however, the returns of sheep dipped have been most gratifying.

With regard to horse-breeding, it is satisfactory to note that a larger percentage of foals has been obtained this year from the Government stallions than in any previous year, and it is hoped that this advance will be continued in ensuing years. There are now 12 Government stallions in the Territory which every season are distributed throughout the districts for stud purposes and returned to Maseru for the winter.

There has been no serious outbreak of contagious diseases among stock. There have been no cases of glanders, and as two years have now elapsed since the last outbreak it is hoped that the attempts at its eradication have been successful.

The country has again been unvisited by locusts this year.

EDUCATION.

The following table shows the enrolment of pupils in elementary schools for the last two years:—

Enrolment of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	No. of Pupils on Roll, December, 1910.			No. of Pupils on Roll, December, 1911.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society.	5,285	7,325	12,610	5,650	8,548	14,198
Church of England ...	823	976	1,799	814	1,263	2,077
Roman Catholic ...	179	809	988	207	928	1,135
Total	6,287	9,110	15,397	6,671	10,739	17,410

This shows an increase of 2,013 pupils, which is all the more satisfactory as it is accounted for largely by the growth in popularity of the small schools in heathen districts.

The average attendance was as follows:—

1910.			1911.		
Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
4,685	6,497	11,182	5,080	7,797	12,877

It will be noticed that of the total increased attendance of 1,695, the attendance of the girls has increased by 1,300 while that of the boys has increased only by 395, and this disproportionate increase shows that to some extent parents are losing their

fear that school influence will emancipate their daughters from parental control in regard to marriage.

The Central Board of Advice, on which three missions working in the Territory are represented, continues to do much for the improvement of native education in the Territory.

MEDICAL.

The number of patients treated at the Government hospitals and dispensaries during the period under report was as follows:—In-patients 1,674, out-patients 36,264, of whom 8,931 attended at the dispensaries more than once. In October, 1911, the Principal Medical Officer inspected the hospitals and dispensaries throughout the Territory and reports the high standard of work maintained in them. A new dispensary is being built at Qacha's Nek.

A table showing the number of beds in each hospital was given in the Report for 1909-10.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

Small-pox broke out in September, 1911, in the Mohale's Hoek district, but the outbreak was slight and soon stamped out. In January and February, 1912, however, further outbreaks of the disease were reported in the Mafeteng and Mohale's Hoek districts, and at the date of this Report there were 81 cases in the former and 309 cases in the latter district. Most of the cases were of a mild type, and the rapid spread of the disease is due to the difficulties which were experienced in maintaining a strict quarantine over villages where cases were reported and to the indifference to vaccination which at one time was manifested among certain sections of the people in the Mohale's Hoek district. The difficulty of maintaining quarantine was met by invoking the aid of the Paramount Chief, and the indifference to vaccination was overcome by placing in quarantine all villages inhabited by persons who refused vaccination as well as those villages that contained actual cases of small-pox. This temporary refusal of some of the people to submit to vaccination was no doubt largely due to a feeling of security which a prolonged absence of any considerable outbreak of the disease in the Territory had engendered, and when measures were taken, as stated above, the difficulty at once disappeared, and some 41,703 people were vaccinated in the Mohale's Hoek district, which is thought to be now fairly well protected. The total number of people vaccinated and re-vaccinated in the Territory during the period under report was 182,820.

The health of the police and convicts has been excellent.

LEGISLATION.

The following are among the most important Proclamations issued by His Excellency the High Commissioner during the year under report:—

1. Guardian's Fund Proclamation.
2. A Proclamation making provision to enable the High Commissioner to confer on police officers in Basutoland jurisdiction to try minor offences.
3. Bills of Exchange Proclamation.
4. Public Holidays Proclamation.
5. Obscene Publications Proclamation.
6. Cinematograph Displays Proclamation.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

The Post Offices in the country are as stated in last year's Report, and remain unchanged. It is proposed to connect Qacha's Nek with Matatiele, a distance of about 23 miles, by means of a telephone over which telegraph business can be performed, and which will doubtless prove to be a great benefit to the camp at Qacha's Nek and will supply a want that has for some time been felt.

Postage stamps to the value of £3,134 15*s*. 7*d*. were sold throughout the Territory during the year, as compared with £2,894 11*s*. 3*d*. sold during the previous year, being an increase of £240 4*s*. 4*d*. Telegraph and cable collections amount to £1,459 11*s*. 1*d*., showing an increase of £15 15*s*. 5*d*. Savings bank deposits totalled £4,603 13*s*. 6*d*., and withdrawals £3,225 17*s*. 11*d*. in 1911-12, as compared with £4,689 3*s*. 0*d*. and £2,844 9*s*. 9*d*., respectively, in 1910-11.

The following comparative table shows the amount of money orders and postal orders issued and paid during the last two years:—

Year.	Issued.		Paid.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
		£		£
1911–12	20,542	30,014	15,742	33,586
1910–11	17,343	21,441	13,493	23,907

The Government industrial school at Maseru has had a very successful year, being largely due to the proficiency of many of the boys during their last year at school.

Gaols.

There are seven gaols and two lock-ups in Basutoland, and during the period under report 558 prisoners passed through them, as compared with 716 in the previous year.

PUBLIC WORKS.

New head-quarter offices at Maseru were commenced in July, 1911, and will be finished within the twelve months. The building consists of 23 offices and a court room. New offices are also in course of construction at Mohale's Hoek. A small bridge over the Tlametlu River has been completed, and one over the Tsoaing River is nearing completion. Some progress has been made with the scheme for providing new police barracks at the different stations in the Territory, which were much needed, and a large police stable to accommodate 100 horses has been built at Maseru. The sum of £20,000 has been spent on the maintenance and repair of the roads.

CRIME AND POLICE.

The police force in the Territory on the 31st March, 1912, was of the following strength:—

European Inspectors	4
European Sub-Inspectors	11
European Constables	6
Native Officers	3
Native Constables	5
Native Sergeants	9
Native Corporals	15
Native Privates	258
Special Native Police	231

The special native police shown above are employed as border guards in the Quthing and Qacha's Nek districts as a precaution against the introduction of East Coast Fever into the Territory. They are ununiformed with the exception of an arm badge, but, like the regular force, are mounted.

Liquor continues to be smuggled into the country. The police have done good work in combating the traffic considering the apparent ease with which the liquor is obtainable in neighbouring Provinces.

The following table shows the arrests for liquor smuggling during the last five years:—

1907-08	67 arrests
1908-09	79 ,,
1909-10	90 ,,
1910-11	148 ,,
1911-12 (9 months ended 31/3/12) ...	100 ,,

GENERAL.

The period under report has been a quiet and uneventful one with no occurrences of any great importance to record.

The Census of 1911 has now been completed, and the following audited and final figures should be substituted for the unaudited returns given in last year's Report.

Total population, 404,507, of which 1,396 are European or white. Total males, 184,102; total females, 220,405.

It will be noticed that there is a considerable preponderance of females over males as shown by the above figures, but, as stated in last year's Report, the sexes in Basutoland are nearly equal in number, as will appear from the following figures which are taken from the " absentee " return.

Total males absent	21,658
Total females absent	2,972

Of the absent males 11,816 were engaged in work on the mines; the remainder, together with the females, are accounted for as being employed in service other than at mines, visiting, and at school.

The increase of the total population at the Census of 1911 over the total population at the Census of 1904 amounts to 55,659, being an increase of 13·75 per cent.

Some progress has been made in connection with the establishment of a leper settlement near Maseru. A suitable site has been selected and authority for the necessary expenditure will shortly be applied for. It is only natural that an undertaking of such a magnitude takes a considerable time to complete, and this will be more apparent when it is realized that it is intended to provide accommodation for approximately 700 lepers. It is hoped, however, that a year or eighteen months will see the settlement fairly well established. When authority is obtained for the necessary expenditure the buildings will at once be put in hand.

The total number of passes issued to natives during the nine months under review to leave the Territory amounted to 108,654, as compared with 135,700 in the previous twelve months. Of this total, 66,900 were issued to men leaving for purposes of work, and 41,754 for visiting purposes and on their own affairs. Last year's figures were 84,600 for work and 51,100 for visiting.

It should be remembered that the period under report is only of nine months, which will explain the apparent decrease in the figures. There will thus be seen to be proportionately a considerable increase on the number of passes issued last year.

Basutoland National Council.

The Council assembled during the month of March, and is still in session at the date of this Report.

CHAS. E. BOYES,
Acting Government Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
704	Northern Nigeria	1910–1911
705	East Africa Protectorate	"
706	British Honduras	1910
707	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
708	Uganda	1910–1911
709	Straits Settlements...	1910
710	Basutoland	1910–1911
711	Leeward Islands	"
712	St. Vincent	"
713	St. Lucia	1910
714	St. Helena	1911
715	Weihaiwei	"
716	Ceylon	1910–1911
717	Gibraltar	1911
718	Gambia	"
719	Ashanti	"
720	Falkland Islands	"
721	Seychelles	"
722	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
723	Hong Kong...	"
724	Sierra Leone	"
725	Gold Coast	"
726	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
727	Fiji	"
728	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1911–1912

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1906–7 and 1907–8.
75	West Indies...	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 769.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1912-13.

(For Report for 1911-12, *see* No. 729.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1913.

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1913.

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No. 769.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1911–12, *see* No. 729.)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

High Commissioner's Office,
Pretoria,
August 25th, 1913.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland forwarding the Annual Report and Blue Book on the Territory for the financial year ended March 31st, 1913.

I have, &c.,

GLADSTONE,
High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Maseru,
August 5th, 1913.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book for the year ended March 31st, 1913, together with the Annual Report for the same period.

I have, &c.,

H. C. SLOLEY,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency
The Right Honourable
Viscount Gladstone, P.C., G.C.M.G.,
High Commissioner for South Africa.

(31772—2.) Wt. 35104—688. 1125 & 90. 10/13 D & S. A 2

BASUTOLAND ANNUAL REPORT, 1912-13.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue of Basutoland for the financial year ended March 31st, 1913, amounted to £161,512, and the ordinary expenditure for the same period to £150,865. In addition a sum of £20,900 was spent, from surplus balances brought forward from previous years, on improvement of agriculture, new buildings, and the establishment of a leper settlement. The following table shows the revenue collected during the last three years:—

Revenue.

—	1910–11.	1911–12.	1912–13.
	£	£	£
Native Tax	84,175	92,069	97,722
Post Office	3,774	3,634	5,096
Licences (including fines)	5,851	5,218	6,228
Fees of Court or Office	343	332	402
Miscellaneous receipts	2,259	1,793	3,225
Customs	45,029	32,169	43,947
Interest	4,066	3,648	4,892
Total	145,500	138,864	161,512

It should be noted that the figures, both of revenue and expenditure, for the year 1911-12 are for nine months only, the financial year having been altered from June 30th to March 31st.

As, notwithstanding this change, practically the whole of the Native Tax was collected during the year 1911-12, the figures under this head for the year 1912-13 indicate a substantial increase, which is all the more satisfactory seeing that the Territory has experienced a season of exceptional drought. The other items of revenue, all of which show gratifying progress, do not call for special mention. The expenditure incurred during the past three years is shown in the following statement:—

Expenditure.

—	1910–11.	1911–12.	1912–13.
	£	£	£
Establishments	13,740	11,165	15,110
Police	18,114	14,521	21,055
Post Office	4,377	3,510	4,586
Allowances to Chiefs and Headmen ...	6,376	6,108	6,764
Medical Expenses	642	761	1,347
Office Contingencies	1,153	1,396	3,089
Revenue Services	112	109	186
Administration of Justice	2,821	3,416	4,088
Public Works...	32,400	32,453	40,503
Hospitals	9,868	8,116	11,687

—	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.
	£	£	£
Education	12,385	9,804	14,657
Rewards for Special Services	64	85	131
Audit	355	225	375
Miscellaneous...	7,079	2,931	4,910
Agriculture	10,429	10,099	18,186
National Council	817	235	1,312
Pensions	2,025	1,792	2,879
Capital Expenditure from Surplus Balances	12,124	5,234	20,900
Total	134,888	111,968	171,765

These figures, even leaving those on account of capital expenditure on one side, show a great increase on those of two years before. In the majority of cases the increase is merely due to the natural growth of the population and progress of the Territory, but among causes responsible for increase under particular heads the following may be mentioned. Owing to the appearance of small-pox it was necessary to resort to general vaccination in areas surrounding the scenes of outbreaks of the disease, and in consequence the expenditure under the head "Medical Expenses" was doubled. Under the head "Office Contingencies" a sum of £1,388 was spent on furniture and fittings for the new headquarter offices at Maseru, which were built from funds provided from surplus balances. Of the amount expended under the head "Public Works" just half was spent on the maintenance and repair of roads throughout the country. Owing to the spread of East Coast fever in the north-eastern districts of the Cape Province it became necessary to increase the precautions taken to prevent the spread of the disease to Basutoland. No less a sum than £11,271 was spent during the year on this service, the expenditure being included under the head "Agriculture."

Up to March 31st last a sum of £65,849 in all has been spent from balances which had been brought forward from year to year on works of permanent utility and on schemes which it is hoped will add to the prosperity of the country. Hospitals have been built at Mafeteng and Mohale's Hoek, and the Maseru Hospital has been added to at a total cost of £13,514. Three bridges have been constructed at a cost of £20,387. Under the head of "Agriculture" a sum of £7,061 has been spent on the purchase of stallions and rams and on measures taken for the eradication of scab. A large sum, amounting to £18,009, has been spent on the preparation of a leper settlement near Maseru, and a further amount of £20,000 has been authorised for the completion of the work. When finished accommodation will be provided for between six and seven hundred lepers.

The following is a statement of assets and liabilities on March 31st last:—

Assets.

	£	s.	d.
Balance at Standard Bank	17,558	8	5
Balances in hands of Sub-Accountants	5,079	17	5
On loan to Swaziland Administration	80,000	0	0
On fixed deposit with Standard Bank	50,000	0	0
On deposit with Crown Agents	1,500	0	0
Remittances in transit	3,000	0	0
Advances recoverable	118	6	3
Total	£157,256	12	1

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.
Deposits from Labour Agents	1,200	0	0
Deposits from Master of Court (Estate Moneys)	2,351	13	4
Debit balance with Crown Agents	910	8	1
Excess of Assets over Liabilities	152,794	10	8
Total	£157,256	12	1

TRADE.

The doubt expressed in last year's Report as to whether the yield of maize and kafir corn would be sufficient for home consumption has unfortunately been found to be well founded and large quantities of both have had to be imported to supply the deficiency. Maize crops are reported as being fairly good in the north of Basutoland, in the central parts and in some of the mountain districts only fair, and in the south as distinctly bad. It is hoped, however, that the better crops of the north will make up for the deficiency in the south and render importation from outside unnecessary. It is to be regretted that the same cannot be said of kafir corn, as from all accounts there will be a serious shortage and large orders are being placed for supplies from the Orange Free State and Transvaal. The wheat crop has again proved a disappointment, the one encouraging feature in the cultivation of this cereal being the marked diminution in the quantity of smut, attributable doubtless to the attention drawn to the necessity of dipping the seed before planting.

In wool and mohair prices have been fairly well maintained, which goes to show that the improvement of quality mentioned in last year's Report has not depreciated.

In the absence of statistics remarks on trade must of necessity be confined to narrow limits, from information gained second hand and from personal observation. Speaking generally, it is probable that the volume of trade has remained stationary owing to the fact that, although there has been a partial failure in some

branches of agriculture and in stock raising, yet, on the other hand, there has been a greater activity in other directions, and the valuable asset represented by the labour market has probably prevented a serious falling off in trade returns.

AGRICULTURE.

Work done during the year has been mainly in the direction of donga prevention, and tree planting for that purpose is therefore to a large extent experimental. Two dongas on the Maseru reserve were fenced in and stone dams either repaired or built to collect silt for tree planting, and the dongas themselves and the ground within the fencing were planted with poplar, willow, wild cherry and robinia and the dry banks with American aloe and prickly pear. Some 3,000 pine trees have also been planted along the sides of one of these dongas, which it is hoped will tend to stop the rush of water. Owing to the very severe drought this year the trees have not done so well as was hoped. At Teyateyaneng a piece of land very badly cut into by dongas has been fenced in for experimental purposes and some 30,000 poplar and willow trees have been planted in the enclosure, which, considering the bad year, have done well.

The question of afforestation is receiving the serious attention of the Government as being a means both for preventing the further erosion of the soil by dongas and for the establishment of plantations in various parts of the country. The great difficulty that has to be coped with is the apathy and indifference of the natives to the evils of soil erosion and to the question of afforestation generally, the great commercial importance of the latter being not realised by them at present.

During the coming year it is proposed to establish a small agricultural school and farm near Maseru, the value of which is to lie more in its demonstrative and educational than in experimental work, where pupils will, it is hoped, learn practically by actual labour some knowledge and skill in farming operations.

VETERINARY.

There have been no serious outbreaks of contagious disease in the Territory during the past year. There has been no recrudescence of glanders, and it is reasonable to suppose that this equine disease has been eradicated. No outbreaks of East Coast fever have occurred, and our position so far as the Natal border is concerned can be considered much more satisfactory than it ever has been since this disease assumed such serious proportions in Natal. As regards the East Griqualand border, East Coast fever has caused heavy losses in the native areas of East Griqualand and a strict watch is necessarily maintained along the border

During the year 144 slides have been examined microscopically by the Principal Veterinary Surgeon; these slides are sent in for examination by officers stationed on the border whose duty it is to invesigate all outbreaks of bovine disease and to send gland and blood smears for examination.

Scab in sheep continues to be very prevalent and the serious drought experienced during the year has been particularly favourable to the existence of the scab parasite, poverty being the greatest predisposing factor in helping the spread of the disease. The policy of increasing the number of dipping-tanks is being continued and during the year 15 new tanks have been completed, making a total of 34. The total number of sheep dipped during the year, namely, 158,320, must be considered a very satisfactory increase on the 86,500 (in round numbers) dipped last year, and it is a sign that progress is being made. Had not the drought seriously interfered with dipping operations at several tanks it is possible that the returns would have been even more satisfactory.

The year 1912-13 will be known as one of the worst for stock ever experienced in Basutoland, the oldest residents never recollecting such a bad drought. As a result thousands of head of stock have perished from poverty, and unless copious rains occur early in the coming spring the outlook for the future is even more serious, the rainfall for the whole of the Territory being still far below normal.

Owing to the bad outlook stud rams, Merino and Angora goat were purchased only for the Leribe and Qacha's Nek districts, the later rains having been more favourable in these areas. The policy of introducing these rams is very popular with the natives, and there is every reason to suppose that it is playing an important part in the improvement of the wool and mohair of the Territory.

The weather conditions during the whole of the stud season were most trying and have had a depressing effect upon our efforts to improve the breed of horses in the country. During the year 483 mares were covered by Government stallions and 207 live foals born, and although this is an increase of 46 foals on last year it cannot be considered satisfactory. There are 13 Government stallions, which during the season are distributed throughout the Territory and returned to Maseru during the winter. Two of these, Arcturus and Rosebud, died during the year, their deaths being a serious loss to the stud. The horse Norman and the pony Signal Hill have been purchased. The beneficial effect of endeavours to improve the ponies of the country is observable at the agricultural shows, where numbers of ponies sired by Government stallions have been exhibited, many of them of very considerable merit. These shows are increasing in popularity with the natives and there is no doubt are doing much good in inciting them to improve their stock and to take greater care of it.

There have been no visitations by locusts this year.

EDUCATION.

All Government-aided schools in this Territory are regulated by rules drawn up by the Central Board of Advice, an advisory body, consisting of representatives of the Government and of the missions, formed in 1910. These rules, which are embodied in a pamphlet, have been approved by His Excellency the High Commissioner and are as occasion may require liable to amendment at the annual meetings of the Board of Advice. An immediate effect of the adopted resolutions of the Board was—as the following table shows—that the attendance of pupils, which had for years been stationary, or even retrograde, increased with great rapidity.

Table of Total Average Attendance in Schools and Institutions.

Year ending December,

1902	9,057
1903	10,024
1904	10,041
1905	9,963
1906	9,704
1907	9,454
1908	9,279
1909	9,498
1910	11,651
1911	13,417
1912	15,271

The following table shows the enrolment of pupils in elementary schools during the last two years:—

Enrolment of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	No. of Pupils on Roll December, 1911.			Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1912.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society.	5,250	8,548	14,198	6,241	9,957	16,198
Church of England ...	814	1,263	2,077	898	1,512	2,410
Roman Catholic ...	207	928	1,135	294	1,309	1,603
Total	6,671	10,739	17,410	7,433	12,778	20,211

The largely increased number of pupils on the roll, namely 2,801, is very satisfactorily accounted for by the attendance of pupils in out-of-the-way and backward districts. The average attendance of pupils in elementary schools is given in the following table:—

Average Attendance of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	Year ending December, 1911.			Year ending December, 1912.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society.	4,305	6,183	10,488	4,659	7,171	11,830
Church of England ...	599	876	1,475	631	1,042	1,673
Roman Catholic ...	176	738	914	223	982	1,205
Total	5,080	7,797	12,877	5,513	9,195	14,708

These figures show an increased attendance of 1,831 on last year, due to the number of children attending school on their own account, their parents taking no interest in the question whether their children should or should not come under the influence of the mission school.

The total number of elementary schools in Basutoland is 280, and it is satisfactory to note that a large number of these are small schools with an attendance of under 45, which shows the extent to which the influence of education has permeated to the more distant and uncivilised parts of the country.

Industrial training institutions continue to turn out a number of boys who find work as masons, carpenters, &c., and many villages show the result of their training in the shape of some solidly-built dwelling place of well-cut stone.

LEGISLATION.

The following are among the more important Proclamations issued by His Excellency the High Commissioner during the year under report:—

1. Cattle Importation Proclamation, regulating the introduction of cattle into Basutoland from the Union.

2. Further Native Labour Amendment Proclamation, dealing chiefly with the questions of desertion of native labourers after they have been recruited, and of increasing the efficiency of the security for good behaviour that has to be found by all labour agents on taking out a licence in Basutoland.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

The number of Post Offices in the Territory remains unaltered, but sub-agencies for the circulation of letters and sale of postage stamps and postal orders have been opened at Thaba Bosiu, Roma, and Majara in the Maseru district in order to relieve the conges-

tion of the Maseru Post Office, where work has been increasing steadily for some time past. It is proposed to establish further sub-agencies at Motsekuoa's and Thabarney in the Mafeteng district. The necessity for establishing sub-agencies is doubtless the outcome of the ever-increasing needs of the natives for greater postal facilities.

Postage stamps to the value of £3,397 8*s*. 9*d*. were sold during the year as compared with £3,134 15*s*. 7*d*. sold during the previous year, being an increase of £262 12*s*. 2*d*. Telegraph collections amounted to £1,356 6*s*. 8*d*., being a decrease of £38 12*s*. 1*d*. on the previous year's collection, but on the other hand cable collections show an increase of £28, being £91 12*s*. 6*d*. for the year under review as against £63 12*s*. 6*d*. for the previous year. Savings Bank deposits amounted to £5,495 5*s*. 0*d*., and withdrawals to £4,593 16*s*. 5*d*. for 1912-13 as compared with £4,603 13*s*. 6*d*., and £3,225 17*s*. 11*d*., respectively, for 1911-12, being a respective increase of £891 11*s*. 6*d*. and £1,367 18*s*. 6*d*.

The following comparative table shows the amount of money orders and postal orders issued and paid during the last two years:—

Year.	Issued.		Paid.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
		£		£
1912–13	25,848	38,693	18,160	36,897
1911–12	20,542	30,014	15,742	33,586
Increased	5,306	8,679	2,418	3,311

The progress of the boys at the Government Industrial School at Maseru continues to be good, and the class of work turned out has been excellent. Most of the energies of the school during the year have been spent on the building of the leper settlement on a piece of land about four miles from Maseru, and the work has been of the greatest value to the boys, who have thus had the opportunity of obtaining an insight into very practical work. The school has also built in Maseru a new stone church for Europeans, and the quality of the work is undoubtedly excellent. It is gratifying to note, with regard to the teaching of masonry in this and other industrial schools, that the natives are beginning to put to a practical use the knowledge acquired by them at these schools, and in many villages throughout the country can be seen neat, well-built, stone huts which must doubtless have been put up by former pupils in these schools.

GAOLS.

There are seven gaols and two lock-ups in Basutoland, and during the year under review 953 prisoners passed through them as compared with 558 in the period 1911-12.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The new headquarter offices, which were commenced in July, 1911, were completed in July, 1912, when the staff and the records were transferred to the new buildings. The new Government Offices at Mohale's Hoek have also been completed. New offices are in course of construction at Leribe, where they were badly needed. The bridge over the Tsoaing has been completed and is now open for traffic. Hutting for the police at various stations in the country has been proceeded with. The roads have been considerably improved and a number of cross culverts built. There is, however, room for much improvement in this respect.

CRIME AND POLICE.

The police force of the Territory on March 31st, 1913, was of the following strength:—

European Inspectors	2
European Sub-Inspectors	11
European Constables	6
Native Officers	3
Native Constables	2
Native Sergeants	9
Native Corporals	14
Native Privates	260
Native Special Police	240

The native special police shown above are employed as border guards in the Quthing and Qacha's Nek districts as a precaution against the introduction of East Coast fever into the Territory. They are not uniformed with the exception of an arm badge, but, like the regular force, are mounted.

Liquor smuggling, in spite of the good work done by the police in combating the illicit traffic, continues to be carried on extensively, the ease with which supplies are obtained across the borders rendering it a most difficult matter to check its introduction into Basutoland.

The following table shows the arrests for liquor smuggling during the last five years, but it is feared that the number of arrests made is small in comparison with the number of undetected smugglers:—

1908-09	79 arrests
1909-10	90 ,,
1910-11	148 ,,
1911-12 (9 months ended 31 March, 1912	100 ,,
1912-13	186 ,,

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

The following table shows the number of patients treated at the Government hospitals and dispensaries for the last two years:—

Year.	In-patients.	Out-patients (new cases).	Out-patients (subsequent attendances).
1911–12	1,674	36,264	8,931
1912–13	1,959	41,923	13,014

A table showing the number of beds in each hospital was given in the Report for 1909-10.

There has been an unusual amount of illness in the Territory during the year, due to the adverse meteorological conditions, droughty years always being accompanied by an increased amount of sickness. Small-pox has been very prevalent, but the type has been mild. There were 600 cases, with only 40 deaths, mostly in unvaccinated patients. Infected villages are immediately quarantined and the inhabitants vaccinated. Should vaccination be refused the prejudices of the objectors have been speedily overcome by the putting in quarantine of the villages in which they reside. Some difficulty was naturally encountered in maintaining strict quarantine, and the spread of the disease from one village to another could generally be traced to people evading the regulations. The number of vaccinations and revaccinations performed during the year was 109,470, the best vaccinated districts showing a marked freedom from the disease, which was mostly prevalent in remote villages of south Basutoland, where the people are more ignorant and backward, and have in past years declined vaccination.

Enteric fever has been very prevalent and appears to be spreading to distant villages. The hospital accommodation of the Territory only admits of a small number of patients being treated on modern lines, and, moreover, since cases are not usually reported until about the second week of the disease, experience has shown that it is better to leave the patients where they are, however unfavourable the surroundings, than to attempt to move them into hospital. It is astonishing what a large number recover under the worst conditions.

Considerable progress has been made with the buildings of the leper settlement, about four miles from Maseru, and they should be ready for occupation towards the end of 1913. Provision is being made for 640 patients, but, if necessary, the accommodation could easily be extended to take 50 per cent. more at a minimum expenditure, and without interfering with the general arrangements of the institution.

The health of the police and convicts has been excellent.

GENERAL.

It is with extreme regret that the death of Mr. Lewis Wroughton, the Government Secretary, has to be recorded.

Mr. Wroughton had been ailing for some time, had been granted six months' leave, and was on the point of starting on his leave, when he passed quietly away on the night of April 23. Mr. Wroughton joined the Basutoland service in 1884 as a Sub-Inspector of the Police and had completed 28 years of good and faithful service. He leaves a widow and two young children, to whom the sympathy of the entire service is extended.

The death of Mr. Wroughton rendered certain official changes necessary. Mr. Barry May, Government Secretary of the Bechuanaland Protectorate Service, was transferred to Basutoland as Deputy Resident Commissioner and Treasurer. Mr. J. C. Macgregor, Assistant Commissioner of the Leribe district, was transferred to Bechuanaland as Government Secretary of the Protectorate. Mr. J. P. Murray, Financial Secretary, was transferred to an Assistant Commissionership in Basutoland, and Mr. C. E. Boyes appointed as Government Secretary and Assistant Commissioner of the Maseru district.

The new Government buildings were completed in July, and the Resident Commissioner and staff moved into them. They are built of stone under iron roof, and the offices are commodious and well ventilated.

The year under review has been one of the driest on record, the rainfall falling lamentably short of the average. The loss of stock in consequence of the want of grass has been enormous, and for some months all public work has been at a standstill owing to the lack of transport. This refers particularly to road work, as owing to poverty all transport oxen had to be withdrawn from work and even then the loss amongst Government oxen has been abnormally high.

The following table shows the number of passes for natives to leave the Territory issued during the last two years:—

Year.	Labour.	Visiting.	Total.
1911–12	66,900	41,754	108,654
1912–13	77,244	59,422	136,666

The figures for 1911-12 are for the nine months ended March 31st, 1912.

Towards the latter end of December, the Paramount Chief, Letsie, went on a visit to a neighbouring farmer in the Orange Free State, and whilst there was taken ill and was unable to move back to his village. He recovered slightly and before quite convalescent was seized with an attack of pneumonia and died on January 28th. Arrangements were made for bringing the body up to Thaba Bosiu, the national burying ground of the Baquena family, where the burial took place a few days later. The burial

was attended by the Deputy Resident Commissioner (the Resident Commissioner being away on leave) and most of the principal chiefs of the Territory. The chief Griffith, brother of the deceased chief, was nominated to act as Paramount Chief until such time as the nation should decide on a successor.

A rather serious breach of the peace occurred in the Mohale's Hoek district between the local chiefs Mako Sekake and Lebona, both of whom belong to the Ba Mohale clan. The dispute arose over the vexed question of land rights and both parties resorted to the use of arms. The case was heard at Mohale's Hoek by the Resident Commissioner in conjunction with the Paramount Chief, and those responsible were suitably punished.

No special remarks are called for on the amount of crime committed during the year, with the exception, perhaps, of the number of cases in which women have been concerned, such as infanticide and concealment of birth. These are crimes which, as a rule, are unknown amongst the natives, but during the year there appears to have been quite an unusual number of them.

The meeting of the National Council referred to in last year's Report as still being in session was fruitful of a good deal of discussion and representations on the following subjects were submitted to His Excellency the High Commissioner:—

(1) Regarding procedure in the Council.
(2) Native Tax Proclamation.
(3) Marriage Law.

His Excellency's replies to these representations will probably be submitted to the Council when next in session.

CHAS. E. BOYES,
Government Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
737	Imperial Institute	1911
738	Northern Nigeria	"
739	Jamaica	1911–1912
740	Swaziland	"
741	Bahamas	"
742	Grenada	1911
743	Uganda	1911–1912
744	Mauritius	1911
745	Trinidad and Tobago	1911–1912
746	British Guiana	"
747	St. Vincent	"
748	Barbados	"
749	Leeward Islands	"
750	Straits Settlements	1911
751	East Africa Protectorate	1911–1912
752	St. Lucia	"
753	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1911
754	Cayman Islands (Jamaica)	1911–1912
755	Gibraltar	1912
756	St. Helena	"
757	Weihaiwei	"
758	Ceylon	1911–1912
759	Sierra Leone	1912
760	Seychelles	"
761	Somaliland	1912–1913
762	Hong Kong...	1912
763	Turks and Caicos Islands...	"
764	Falkland Islands	"
765	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
766	Bahamas	"
767	Gambia	"
768	Fiji	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
75	West Indies	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies...	Preservation of Ancient Monuments.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 813.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1913–14

(For Report for 1912–13, see No. 769.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1914.

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No. 813.

BASUTOLAND

(For Report for 1912–13, see No. 769.)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

High Commissioner's Office,
Pretoria,
August 29th, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland forwarding the Annual Report and Basutoland Blue Book for the year ended March 31st, 1914.

I have, &c.,
J. WOLFE MURRAY,
High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Maseru, Basutoland,
25th August, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward the Blue Book for the year ended March 31st, 1914, together with the Annual Report for the same period.

I have, &c.,
H. C. SLOLEY,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency,
Lieutenant-General Sir James Wolfe Murray, K.C.B.,
High Commissioner for South Africa.

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BASUTOLAND ANNUAL REPORT, 1913–14.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue of Basutoland for the financial year ended the 31st of March, 1914, amounted to £161,417, and the ordinary expenditure to £165,619. In addition a sum of £37,843 was spent on undertakings of a permanent character, among them being the reconstruction of the telephone system throughout the country; improvement of water supply at Maseru and Leribe; Leper Settlement; and bridges—one, still in course of construction over the Caledon River, being erected at the joint expense of Basutoland and the Union Government. The excess of expenditure was met from money which had accumulated from surpluses brought forward in former years. The effect of the year's transactions was to reduce the funds of the Territory by a sum of £42,045. The following table shows the revenue collected during the past three years:—

	1911–12	1912–13	1913–14
	£	£	£
Native Tax	92,069	97,722	96,393
Post Office	3,634	5,096	5,287
Licences (including fines) ..	5,219	6,228	5,922
Fees of Court or Office ..	332	402	473
Miscellaneous Receipts ..	1,793	3,225	3,590
Customs	32,170	43,947	45,214
Interest	3,648	4,892	4,538
Total .. £	138,865	161,512	161,417

In view of the drought and almost entire failure of crops the amount of revenue collected may be considered satisfactory. Customs receipts depend now not on the prosperity of Basutoland, but on that of the Union of South Africa. Basutoland receives a definite proportion—under one per cent.—of the Union's Customs revenue. The expenditure incurred during the past three years is shown in the following statement:—

Expenditure.

	1911–12 (9 months)	1912–13	1913–14
	£	£	£
Establishments	11,166	15,110	15,115
Police	14,522	21,055	22,243
Post Office	3,510	4,586	4,963
Allowances to Chiefs and Headmen	6,109	6,764	7,034
Medical Expenses	762	1,347	—
Office Contingencies	1,397	3,089	2,690
Revenue Services	109	186	—
Administration of Justice ..	3,416	4,088	4,323
Public Works Recurrent ..	32,453	40,503	32,170
Public Works Extraordinary	—	—	12,205
Medical	8,117	11,687	13,680
Education	9,804	14,657	16,771
Rewards for Special Services	85	131	86
Audit	225	375	514
Miscellaneous..	2,932	4,910	6,708
Agriculture	10,099	18,186	7,999
Prevention of East Coast Fever	—	—	10,195
National Council	2[illegible]6	1,312	1,411
Pensions	1,792	2,879	3,805
Leper Settlement	—	—	3,707
Capital expenditure from accumulated balances ..	5,234	20,900	37,842
Total .. £	111,968	171,765	203,461

Eliminating capital expenditure it will be seen that the ordinary expenditure for the year amounted to £165,619, against £106,734 three years before, an increase for the period of £58,885. Revenue during the same period increased by only £22,552. As no considerable expansion of revenue is to be expected in the near future and as, while it is always difficult to cut down expenditure which has once become established, it will probably be necessary to provide approximately £15,000 per annum for the upkeep of the Leper Settlement, it is clear that there is real need to exercise the utmost caution and economy in connection with the finances of the Territory.

The following is a statement of assets and liabilities on the 31st March, 1914:—

Assets.	£
Balance in hands of Sub-Accountants	4,808
Balance in hands of Crown Agents (including £5,500 on deposit)	5,855
Loan to Swaziland Administration	80,000
Fixed deposit with Standard Bank	30,000
Advances recoverable, including £2,717 repayable by the Government of the Union of South Africa in connection with the construction of a bridge over the Caledon River ..	2,999
	£123,662

Liabilities.	£
Due to Standard Bank of South Africa	9,734
Deposits from Labour Agents	500
Deposit from Master of Court (Estate Moneys) ..	2,638
Excess of Assets over Liabilities	110,790
	£123,662

TRADE.

The further period of drought during the summer months, succeeding two previous dry years, has not tended to improve the returns from agricultural sources, which in normal times have figured as one of the largest assets.

The forecast of the deficiency in the grain crop for 1913 was unfortunately verified, all descriptions being far below the average, necessitating the importation of considerable quantities of food-stuffs from other parts of South Africa.

The reports received concerning wool and mohair have been fairly favourable, and it is understood that the quality has been maintained, but it is feared the increase in quantity, if any, has been inconsiderable, owing to the fact that there have been losses in the flocks in some parts, in consequence of scarcity of pasturage.

Cattle have been more or less in poor condition all through the summer, and the autumn did not find them in a satisfactory state to endure the severity of winter, without reserves of fodder.

Labour, as in previous years, has been the means of bringing in large sums of money from the mines, and elsewhere, but even with this assistance it is thought that a falling off in the volume of trade has been inevitable, owing to the serious shortfall in agricultural products.

The quantity of grain now coming into the Territory from other parts, to supply the deficiency for the months before the next harvest, is the largest known for the past 35 years.

AGRICULTURE.

The drought of the year 1912-13 unfortunately continued and the year under report was even drier. The Southern Districts of Mohales Hoek and Quthing have been most severely affected, and practically no crops either of wheat, maize or kaffir corn have been reaped in them. In other districts there has been a slightly better yield, though maize in general has been a poor crop. Owing to its greater drought resisting powers kaffir corn in favourable situations has given a fair yield.

The effects of the prolonged drought have been particularly noticeable in the large number of trees which have died in the various camps in Basutoland, more particularly in Maseru, where it is estimated that upwards of 500 well grown trees have died. Nurseries for young trees have been established at most of the out-stations and there is one of a considerable size at Maseru. From these trees are distributed for planting on the reserves or to any who apply for them, but it is to be feared that not many applications from natives are received.

With the proposal to establish a small agricultural school and farm near Maseru, mentioned in last year's report, it has not been possible to proceed owing to financial reasons.

During December of last year a swarm of locusts entered the Territory, but wherever it alighted at night it was attacked by natives, who gathered into grain bags as many locusts as they could for purposes of food. In this way the swarm was exterminated and no reports of egg-laying have been received. Basutoland is now free from any sign of locusts.

VETERINARY.

With the exception of a rather severe outbreak of anthrax near Morija, causing the death of fourteen head of cattle and several dogs, the Territory has been remarkably free from any serious outbreak of contagious disease. The East Coast fever outlook on the Natal border has continued to improve, and any chances of infection from that quarter are being greatly reduced. It is much to be regretted, however, that this cannot be said of the East Griqualand border, where an outbreak of the disease occurred during the summer in the Mount Fletcher district, and, with the general desire of the natives of that district to avoid all restrictions imposed by the Union Government, the chances of Basutoland being infected from that area have been very real. Native owners in East Griqualand have tried to obtain sympathy and co-operation from their native friends in Basutoland, in order to assist them to bring their cattle across the border, and although Basutoland natives appear to have been fairly loyal, certain lots of cattle have been driven into the Territory in defiance of the Proclamation. Fortunately most of these cattle were at once discovered and secured, and under the power conferred by the Basutoland Cattle Importation Proclamation, 1912, his Honour the Resident Commissioner issued orders for their immediate destruction, which will, it is hoped, have a salutary effect on the native owners. These cases plainly illustrate the dangerous possibilities of the position and the need of vigilant and trustworthy guards on the border, and the loyal co-operation of the natives of the Territory. With a view to the prevention of similar breaches of the law in the future twenty-five additional guards have been enrolled and stationed along the border, and it is hoped that these precautionary measures will prove effective in preventing further invasions.

The Principal Veterinary Surgeon has examined microscopically during the year 350 slides of gland and blood smears taken from sick animals. These slides are forwarded by Stock Inspectors stationed along the border, whose duty it is to investigate all outbreaks of bovine disease.

The efforts that are being made to eradicate scab in sheep have met with a fair amount of success, no less than 263,756 sheep having been dipped at the various Government sheep-dipping tanks throughout the Territory. This is an increase on last year in the number of sheep dipped of 105,436, and, in view of the drought, is considered satisfactory. The campaign against scab is to be carried on as energetically as possible, and to this end a Stock-Inspector has been appointed for the forthcoming year to take over the supervision of all dipping tanks, to see that all dipping is properly and thoroughly carried out, and to advise chiefs and sheep-owners how to clean and keep clean their flocks. During the year the experiment was tried in two districts of giving free dipping, and, from the large increase in the number of sheep dipped in those districts as compared with their returns for last year, there is little doubt that this was attended with success. It is regretted that owing to financial reasons the scheme for building more tanks has had to be abandoned this year.

The drought of the year 1912–13 continued on into the year under report, with the result that 1913–14 was the driest year on record, and all classes of stock have severely suffered. Only 155 live foals were born, sired by Government stallions, from 405 mares, being a decrease of 52 foals on last year. The stallions "Sailor Boy," "Bowden" and "Shushu" were purchased.

Owing to the severity of the drought it was not considered advisable to purchase any Merino and Angora rams.

EDUCATION.

The year under review has been one of steady progress. Speaking generally, teachers are becoming more accustomed to the new syllabus and are adopting more and more methods which make demands on the intelligence rather than on the memory of the pupils. Parrot-like teaching is becoming rarer and rarer, while intelligent teaching in such subjects as, for instance, hygiene is becoming more general. The pupils, too, are entering school at ages approximating to the school age of European children. It is comparatively rare nowadays to see young men and young women in the preparatory classes—and parents are apparently beginning to realize that the proper period for elementary school life is before, rather than after, adolescence. The steady lowering of the age at which pupils enter schools should have beneficial effects on the discipline and the economical management of schools, for, besides being more tractable than adults and more influenced by the orderliness and discipline of school life, the younger children can be taught by female teachers, who receive a lower salary and who are often more efficient than male teachers in giving instruction to the lower classes.

The following tables show that the steady growth in the number of pupils in elementary schools has been well maintained:—

TABLE 1.

Table of Total Average Attendance in Schools and Institutions.

Year ending December.			Year ending December.		
1902	..	9,057	1908	..	9,279
1903	..	10,024	1909	..	9,498
1904	..	10,041	1910	..	11,651
1905	..	9,963	1911	..	13,417
1906	..	9,704	1912	..	15,271
1907	..	9,454	1913	..	17,070

TABLE 2.

Enrolment of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

	Number of Pupils on Roll December, 1912.			Number of Pupils on Roll December, 1913.		
Mission.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	6,241	9,957	16,198	6,560	11,203	17,763
Church of England	898	1,512	2,410	905	1,611	2,516
Roman Catholic	294	1,309	1,603	323	1,497	1,820
	7,433	12,778	20,211	7,788	14,311	22,099

TABLE 3.

Average Attendance of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

	Year ending December, 1912.			Year ending December, 1913.		
Mission.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	4,659	7,171	11,830	5,001	8,296	13,297
Church of England..	631	1,042	1,673	641	1,171	1,812
Roman Catholic	223	982	1,205	252	1,158	1,410
	5,513	9,195	14,708	5,894	10,625	16,519

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Post Office.

Four new postal sub-agencies have been established during the year at Mphotos, in the Maseru District, and at Motsekuoa's and Thabaneng, in the Mafeteng District, and at Mekaling, in the Mohale's Hoek District. These agencies have become necessary owing to the largely increased needs of the native population for greater postal facilities.

An amount of £5,252 6*s.* 10*d.* was collected during the year on the sale of postage stamps; this figure, however, includes telegraph, cable and customs collections amounting together to £2,064. Inland telegraph collections amounted to £1,508 8*s.* 2½*d.*, being an increase of £152 1*s.* 6*d.*, while cablegram collections, which amounted to £88 13*s.* 9*d.*, showed a decrease of £2 18*s.* 9*d.*

The number and value of deposits and withdrawals in and from the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years is shown in the following table:—

	1912–13.	1913–14.
Deposits.		
Number ..	927	1,016
Value ..	£ s. d. 5,495 5 0	£ s. d. 6,544 3 6
Withdrawals.		
Number ..	271	308
Value ..	£ s. d. 4,593 16 5	£ s. d. 4,509 12 11

It will be seen that the amount withdrawn in 1913–14 is £84 3*s.* 6*d.* less than the previous year.

The following comparative table shows the amount of money orders and postal orders issued and paid during the last two years:—

Year.	Issued.		Paid.	
	Number.	Amount. £	Number.	Amount. £
1913–14 ..	28,532	40,450	20,530	38,098
1912–13 ..	25,848	38,693	18,160	36,897
Increase ..	2,684	£1,757	2,370	£1,201

Industrial School.

The building of the Leper Settlement, which occupied the greater part of the boys at the Industrial School during the year, was completed satisfactorily in December, 1913, and the experience gained there has been of the greatest service to the boys. The health of the boys during the year has been good and the discipline satisfactory.

GAOLS.

There are seven gaols and two lock-ups in Basutoland, and during the year under review 964 prisoners passed through them, as compared with 953 during the year 1912–13.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The new Government Offices at Leribe, reported in last year's report as being in course of construction, are now completed. A bridge over the Caledon River at Peka was commenced in August, 1913, the cost of which is being borne in equal proportions by the Government of the Union of South Africa and the Basutoland Administration, the Caledon River at that place being a border of the Territory. A small bridge has been built over the Majamatalana stream about two miles from Maseru. It is now opened for traffic and is a great benefit to the public. Another bridge over the Lerato near Morija, on the main road to Mafeteng, is in course of construction. Hutting for the police at various stations has been proceeded with, and several sheep dips have been erected in different parts of the country. At Leribe, Mohale's Hoek, and Qacha's Nek improvements have been made in the water supplies, which had suffered through the severe drought, by means of a new reservoir, the erection of a windmill over a supply found by boring, and by the collection of new springs, respectively. The improvement in the condition of the roads is a marked one.

CRIME AND POLICE.

The Police Force of the Territory on the 31st March, 1914, was of the following strength :—

European Inspectors	6
European Sub-Inspectors	10
European Constables	9
Native Officers	3
Native Constables	4
Native Sergeants	9
Native Corporals	13
Native Privates	261
Native Special Police	265

The native special police shown are employed as border guards in the Quthing and Qacha's Nek districts as a precaution against the introduction of East Coast fever into the Territory. They are not uniformed, with the exception of an arm badge, but, like the regular force, are mounted.

Liquor smuggling, in spite of the good work done by the police in combating the illicit traffic, continues to be carried on extensively, the ease with which supplies are obtained across the borders rendering it a most difficult matter to check its introduction into Basutoland.

The following table shows the arrests for liquor smuggling during the last five years, but it is feared that the number of arrests made is small in comparison with the number of undetected smugglers :—

1908–09	.. ..	79 arrests.
1909–10	.. ..	90 ,,
1910–11	.. ..	148 ,,
1911–12 (9 months ended 31st March 1912)	.. .. ..	100 ,,
1912–13	.. ..	186 ,,
1913–14	.. ..	222 ,,

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

The following table shows the number of patients treated at the Government hospitals and dispensaries for the last two years :—

Year.	In-patients.	Out-patients (new cases).	Out-patients (subsequent attendance).
1912–13	1,959	41,923	13,014
1913–14	1,977	40,195	10,976

Smallpox has again been prevalent during the year, and the districts where the people have refused to avail themselves of the protection of vaccination have naturally suffered most. The villages where most of the cases occurred were in the mountainous portions of the Mohale's Hoek district. The number of cases throughout the Territory was about 800, with only 28 deaths. Permanent vaccinators have been employed throughout the year and great efforts have been made to get all infants vaccinated. In the absence of any epidemic in a district some difficulty has been experienced in inducing people to avail themselves of the protection offered. The number of vaccinations and re-vaccinations performed during the year was 158,769.

Diphtheria has been rather prevalent, but the type was very mild and no deaths were reported. There was a slight increase in the number of cases of enteric fever.

The Principal Medical Officer is pleased to be able to report for the first time a distinct improvement in regard to the prevalence of tuberculosis, there being not only a decrease in the total number of cases, but, what is even more marked, a decline in the relative incidence. In 1912 there were 332 cases, or ·95 per cent. of all cases of disease treated, and in 1913 there were 268 cases, or ·66 per cent. of all cases of disease treated. Miner's phthisis is also much less frequently observed than has been the case during recent years.

The Leper Asylum, which has been built at a place known as "Botsabelo," or "place of refuge," about four miles from Maseru, was completed and ready for the reception of patients about the

beginning of the year 1914, and at the close of the year under report contained about 280 inmates. Fresh cases are continually arriving, and it is estimated that the Asylum will eventually contain about 900 patients. In addition to the staff, consisting of a Medical Superintendent, Matron and Nurses, Compound Managers and Guards, a clergyman of the Paris Evangelical Mission Society has been appointed Chaplain to the Settlement, the majority of the patients being of this denomination. Voluntary services for patients of other persuasions are held periodically by visiting clergy.

GENERAL.

In April, 1913, the installation as Paramount Chief of Chief Griffith, brother of the late Paramount Chief Letsie, took place in state at Maseru, in the presence of His Excellency the High Commissioner and a large gathering of the Basuto chiefs and people. The late Letsie left no legal heir to the paramountcy and his brother Griffith was unanimously chosen by the nation as his successor.

The drought of the previous year continued and increased in severity throughout the year under review.

The crops reaped in the Territory have been far below the average. The position is, perhaps, most acute in the southern districts of Mohale's Hoek and Quthing, where they have been a total failure, and this, added to the difficulty of obtaining transport owing to the scarcity of grazing along the trade routes, renders the position of these two districts one of hardship both for man and beast.

Grazing is very scarce all over the country, and the mortality amongst stock during the coming winter will be abnormally high.

Recruiting for the labour markets has been actively carried on, and the following table gives the number of passes issued during the last three years :—

Year.	Labour.	Visiting.	Total.
1911–12	66,900	41,754	108,654
1912–13	77,244	59,422	136,666
1913–14	90,816	53,184	144,000

From this it will be seen that the number of passes issued for labour purposes has increased by some 13,500.

At the annual meeting of the National Council, which was opened by His Excellency the High Commissioner immediately after the instalment of the Chief Griffith as Paramount Chief of Basutoland, there was much useful discussion on questions relative to the domestic concerns of the tribe.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 858.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1914–15.

(For Report for 1913–14 see No. 813.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1915.

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No. 858.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1913–14 see No. 813.)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

High Commissioner's Office,
Cape Town,
21st August, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland forwarding the Annual Report and Blue Book for the year ended March 31st, 1915.

I have, &c.,
BUXTON,
High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
A. Bonar Law, M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Maseru,
26th July, 1915.

MY LORD,

I have the honour to forward the Blue Book for the year ended 31st March, 1915, together with the Annual Report for the same period.

I have, &c.,
H. C. SLOLEY,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency,
The Right Hon. Viscount Buxton, P.C., G.C.M.G.,
High Commissioner for South Africa.

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BASUTOLAND ANNUAL REPORT, 1914–15.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue of Basutoland collected during the financial year ended the 31st of March, amounted to £151,611, and the ordinary expenditure to £160,932. In addition to ordinary expenditure a sum of £9,152 was spent on the completion of undertakings which had been previously authorised in connection with expenditure from capital, that is from funds representing the accumulated surpluses of former years. In all a sum of £112,843 has been spent on the following :—

	£
Hospitals	13,513
Bridges and Roads	29,532
Agriculture	12,230
Water supplies	6,607
Headquarter offices	5,480
Telephone lines	6,822
Leper Settlement	37,259
Sundry	1,400
	£112,843

The following table shows the revenue collected during the past three years :—

Revenue.

	1912–13	1913–14	1914–15
	£	£	£
Native Tax	97,722	96,393	97,436
Customs	43,947	45,214	34,898
Post Office	5,096	5,287	5,409
Licences	* 6,228	* 5,922	3,821
Fees of Court or Office ..	402	473	593
Individual Fines	—	—	2,611
Fees for Services rendered ..	—	—	2,576
Interest	4,892	4,538	3,410
Miscellaneous Receipts ..	† 3,225	† 3,590	857
Total .. £	161,512	161,417	151,611

* In these figures are included Individual Fines.

† Fees for services rendered are included in these amounts.

It will be seen that the drop of £10,000 from the total of the previous year is accounted for under one item (Customs), receipts from which depend on the Customs collections in the Union of South Africa. There is a considerable shrinkage in interest due to reduction in funds available for investment. With these exceptions the figures of revenue may be regarded as decidedly favourable, considering the many adverse circumstances experienced during the year. The outbreak of the European war immediately deprived Basutoland of a market for wool (since recovered) and closed the field of labour, a very popular one, previously provided by the diamond mines. In addition to this the long continued drought lasted well into the financial year, although, fortunately, it was broken in time to save the wheat crop, representing a very large money value to the Basuto, and to ensure the success of the summer crops, mealies, and Kafir corn.

Expenditure.

The following is a return of the expenditure during the last three years :—

	1912–13	1913–14	1914–15
	£	£	£
Establishments	15,110	15,115	15,886
Police	21,055	22,243	22,923
Post Office	4,586	4,963	5,127
Allowances to Chiefs, etc. ..	6,764	7,034	11,271
Office Contingencies	3,089	2,690	2,130
Administration of Justice ..	4,088	4,323	4,727
Public Works Recurrent ..	40,503	32,170	24,060
Public Works Extraordinary	—	12,205	4,029
Medical	11,687	13,680	13,516
Education	14,657	16,771	18,544
Rewards for Special Services	131	86	—
Audit	375	514	507
Miscellaneous..	4,910	6,708	1,204
Agriculture	18,186	7,999	5,967
Prevention of east coast fever	—	10,195	9,940
National Council	1,312	1,411	2,013
Pensions	2,879	3,805	3,995
Leper Settlement	—	3,707	15,093
Medical Expenses	1,347	—	—
Revenue Services	186	—	—
Capital expenditure	20,900	37,842	9,152
Total .. £	171,765	203,401	170,084

These figures indicate the efforts which have been made to reduce expenditure wherever possible in view of the drop in revenue and uncertainty as to the future. Were it not for the fresh liability incurred by the Leper Settlement, on which it was necessary to spend the large sum of over £15,000 during the year, a balance between receipts and payments would have been easily attained.

The following is a statement of assets and liabilities on the 31st March, 1915 :—

Assets.

	£	s.	d.
Balance in hand of Sub-Accountants	13,400	4	5
Balance at Standard Bank of South Africa ..	14,565	16	11
Balance in hand of Crown Agents	1,252	4	7
On loan to Swaziland Administration	72,500	0	0
Advances recoverable	120	8	8
	£101,838	14	7

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Deposits from Master of Court ..	5,984	2	10			
Deposits from Labour Agents ..	1,100	0	0			
Contribution from Basuto to Prince of Wales's War Relief Fund..	2,477	15	1			
				9,561	17	11
Balance of Assets in excess of Liabilities ..				92,276	16	8
				£101,838	14	7

TRADE.

The depression caused by the successive droughts referred to in the last two reports continued to be felt for the first nine months of the year under review.

The unprecedented quantity of grain imported for native food, as previously foreshadowed, was bound to affect to a very considerable degree the ordinary sale of merchandise in the Territory, and, although statistics are not available, it is feared there has been a marked falling off in the value of imports.

At the beginning of 1915, however, a happier state of things was noticeable, as, owing to plentiful rains, the crops made rapid progress, and money which had been kept in hand for the purchase of food was released for other requirements.

The wheat harvest was a fairly good one in comparison with the quantity reaped during the last few years, but is still far below the average of the records of years gone by.

Quality, it is understood, has been maintained, and may even show some improvement, especially in regard to the absence of smut.

Maize and Kafir corn crops were sufficiently matured to resist frost, which came unusually early this season, and there should be sufficient food for the requirements of the people, and a surplus for export.

The quantity and quality of both wool and mohair, have probably been evenly maintained during the past year, but it is doubted if there has been any advance in either respect, as flocks have suffered from the effects of drought, rendering any improvement in staple unlikely, and losses have been considerable, so that there cannot have been any large increase in the number of the flocks. For the autumn shearing, full prices were obtained, but for the spring shearing prices fell very low, owing to conditions brought about by the war. There has, however, been a considerable recovery since then, and it is thought that prices for the coming shearing season will be in favour of the native flock masters.

Horned cattle, in common with all live stock, have suffered most severely owing to scarcity of pasture, and losses have been very heavy indeed. Poor condition of stock and indifferent markets have necessarily led to low prices. The summer rains, and a brisker demand for cattle, coupled with improved conditions, have brought about a considerable appreciation in prices during the last few months, however.

The supply of native labour, both for mining and other industries, has been well sustained, but the demand has been less keen, as a consequence of the closing down of certain mines.

AGRICULTURE.

Though the season of 1914–15 has, on the whole, been one of the best for agriculture throughout Basutoland, it is most unfortunate that there should have been a bad drought since February which has spoilt what would otherwise have been an unusually good year. This failure of the latter rains is not common. As it is, on the whole, the crops of wheat, maize, and Kafir-corn are good throughout the Territory.

Owing to lack of funds it has not been possible to undertake fresh work in the direction of tree planting and donga prevention.

VETERINARY.

The severe drought of the summer of 1913–14 was followed by a very bad spring, and thousands of head of cattle died of poverty. In the absence of Customs returns it is difficult to give an estimate of the number of these deaths from poverty, but in one district alone it has been ascertained from statistics obtained from traders, that no less than 20,000 head of cattle died, and as in certain other districts the drought conditions were much worse, there is little doubt but that the losses in these districts were in a far greater proportion.

The serious drought was not broken until the end of November and this reacted very adversely on the lambing season, a big percentage of this year's lambs succumbing for want of sufficient milk.

From the end of November until the end of February, good rains fell and the sudden saturation of the soil after such a prolonged period of drought, associated with considerable heat, produced for insect and bacterial life ideal conditions for multiplication, with the result that anthrax, horse-sickness, and blue tongue broke out, causing a serious mortality in cattle, horses, and sheep during the latter part of the summer.

The position with regard to east coast fever is satisfactory, no cases having occurred in the Territory, and the outlook on the Natal border generally having continued to improve. The disease in East Griqualand has not spread any nearer to our border, but fresh outbreaks have occurred in the Mount Fletcher districts, and it will be necessary to continue keeping a sharp look-out on this border, especially in view of the disposition of stock owners in the Transkei to evade restrictions imposed by the Union Government. During the year, 481 slides have been examined microscopically by the Principal Veterinary Surgeon, most of these having been sent in by Stock Inspectors stationed along the borders carrying out east coast fever precautions. During the year a port of entry to Natal was opened for cattle through Bushman's Nek Gate in the Qachas Nek District, all cattle using the gate being inspected by the officer-in-charge of the police post at Seh'abathebes and being passed as "Tick free." This concession has been of considerable benefit to traders and natives, and the conditions of export appear to have worked satisfactorily.

The meteorological conditions during the summer appear to have been very suitable for the spores of anthrax, and eight serious outbreaks of this disease have been dealt with by the Principal Veterinary Surgeon, who, however, is of opinion that other outbreaks have occurred in the Territory. The worst outbreak was at Roma in the Maseru district, where 40 head of cattle died in fourteen days. All cattle who had come into contact with the infected animals were inoculated with good results. At other centres of infection contact herds were inoculated, apparently with excellent effect, the disease being cut short almost immediately. The importance of leaving carcases intact and of suitable burial was pointed out to all owners.

The theory that horsesickness did not exist in Basutoland was completely broken down this year, and during February and March a considerable mortality occurred, extending on the western area of the Territory from north to south. It is difficult to estimate what deaths took place, but every district suffered. In Maseru seven deaths occurred, and one constantly heard of horses dying at numerous centres in the Maseru district. Morija appeared to suffer badly, and letters were constantly received from missionaries and natives reporting this "strange" equine disease, and asking for advice and treatment. It is to be noted that this outbreak coincided with a marked and unusual prevalence of nocturnal insects, such as mosquitoes, but, assuming these insects are the carriers of the disease, it would be interesting to know from where, after a lapse of certainly many years, they obtained the infection. The outbreak in Basutoland coincided with a similar outbreak in the neighbouring Orange Free State, where some horse breeders suffered very severe losses.

Very considerable losses from blue tongue were experienced by sheep-owners this summer throughout all the lower areas of Basutoland. Long experience has shown that the meteorological conditions that are suitable for horsesickness suit those for blue tongue in sheep, and this was well illustrated in Basutoland. The indirect losses from wool and condition are almost as great as the actual mortality, and in travelling through Basutoland in the autumn it was quite easy to see the flocks that had been infected with this disease.

In view of the prevalence of horsesickness, anthrax, and blue tongue, advisory circulars were sent to all Assistant Commissioners for the information of natives dealing with these diseases, personal advice either through correspondence or visits was rendered on a large scale, and a large amount of medicine was issued for the treatment of infected flocks.

Equine and ovine parasites have been very prevalent, large numbers of sheep having succumbed to the *strongylus contortus* after the rains. Native owners readily recognise parasiticism in equines, and bring large numbers for treatment, but they are not so alive to the important part played by parasites, affecting the welfare of their flocks. Owing to the effects of the drought, the cattle and horses became badly infected with mange and lice in the spring months, and a large number of infected animals were dipped, with very good results.

The scarcity of food resulting from the drought proved a predisposing factor in favour of scab in sheep, and the scarcity of water, owing to the failure of springs, has militated adversely against dipping operations, several dipping tanks having for a time been rendered useless, owing to an inadequate water supply. Despite all the adverse conditions seriously interfering with the measures against scab, 242,100 sheep and goats were dipped for the treatment of scab, and an additional 42,014 were dipped prior to export into the Union, in terms of the Scab Regulations, making a total of 284,114.

The continuance of the drought until the end of November affected our endeavours in carrying out the stud work very adversely, many of the mares dying and becoming poverty stricken, and although only 28 abortions were reported, there is little doubt many more took place. During the previous season 470 mares were covered by Government stallions, and 173 live foals were born, and, considering the very trying climatic conditions that have existed during this period, the result is more satisfactory than anticipated. With the advent of rains in November conditions became more favourable for stud work, and it is hoped that a bigger percentage of foals will be returned for next season. During recent shows, one had very good evidence of the influence of the good sire in the country, and some of the young stock sired by Government stallions would not have disgraced an Orange Free State Show. This was particularly the case at the Maseru Show.

EDUCATION.

Though an increase in the daily average attendance of pupils in schools throughout the Territory is to be recorded, there has been a considerable drop in the relative rate of increase.

During the four years preceding 1914, the average annual increase was well over 1,800; this year the increase was only 573 as the following table shows:—

TABLE I.

Table of Total Average Attendance in Schools and Institutions.

Year ending December.			Year ending December.			Increase.
1902	..	9,057	1909	..	9,498	219
1903	..	10,024	1910	..	11,651	2,153
1904	..	10,041	1911	..	13,417	1,766
1905	..	9,963	1912	..	15,271	1,854
1906	..	9,704	1913	..	17,070	1,799
1907	..	9,454	1914	..	17,643	573
1908	..	9,279				

However, in view of drought and epidemics of sickness it may be considered satisfactory that the schools instead of showing a decrease were able to maintain and improve their position.

In the following tables the enrolment and attendance of pupils in elementary schools are shown apart from those of pupils in institutions:—

TABLE II.

Enrolment of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1913.			Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1914.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	6,560	11,203	17,763	6,327	11,762	18,089
Church of England	905	1,611	2,516	869	1,661	2,530
Roman Catholic	323	1,497	1,820	336	1,560	1,896
	7,788	14,311	22,099	7,532	14,983	22,515

TABLE III.

Average Attendance of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

	Year ending December, 1913.			Year ending December, 1914.		
Mission.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	5,001	8,296	13,297	4,810	8,751	13,561
Church of England..	641	1,171	1,812	665	1,267	1,932
Roman Catholic	252	1,158	1,410	291	1,299	1,590
	5,894	10,625	16,519	5,766	11,317	17,083

TABLE IV.

Enrolment of Pupils in Institutions.

Institution.	Church or other controlling agency.	Number of Pupils on roll December, 1914.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Morija (Normal)	P.E.M.S.	158	—	158
Th. Morena (Normal and Industrial	„	—	50	50
Leloaleng (Industrial) ..	„	70	—	70
Masite (Normal and Industrial) ..	C. of E.	21	—	21
Maseru (Industrial)	„	—	18	18
Roma (Normal, Industrial, and Agricultural) ..	R.C.	62	234	296
		311	302	613

During the year an Assistant Inspector has been appointed to take over the inspection of the southern portion of the Territory. Additional inspection of schools had long been desirable, and the outbreak of the war and the consequent call of many of the missionaries to the front, made some additional help in the matter of school inspection urgently necessary.

TABLE V.

Pupils in European Schools.

	Roll on last day of quarter ending 31st March, 1914.	Roll on last day of quarter ending 31st March, 1915.
Leribe	6	14
Teyateyaneng	11	13
Maseru	33	39
Mafeteng	21	23
Mohale's Hoek	—	6

Table V. shows the number of pupils in Government-aided schools for European children. These schools provide an elementary education and are established in five out of the seven magisterial camps in the Territory. In the two remaining camps there are as yet insufficient children of school age to justify the establishment of schools. Parents of children living at some distance from the camps make their own arrangements for their children's education, and in nearly all cases give their children the best education their means will allow.

LEGISLATION.

The following are among the more important Proclamations issued by His Excellency the High Commissioner during the year under report :—

(1) The Basutoland Copyright (Prohibited Importation) Proclamation, 1914.

(2) A Proclamation (No. 15 of 1914) making provision against and prescribing penalties for dealing with infringing copies of a work in which copyright exists.

(3) Customs Proposed Duties Procedure Proclamation, 1914, with an amending Proclamation (No. 28 of 1914).

(4) Spirits and Beer Proposed Duties Procedure Proclamation, 1914.

(5) Plumage Birds Protection and Preservation Proclamation, 1914, prohibiting with certain exceptions the sale in, and the exportation from, the Territory of the plumage and skins of wild birds.

(6) A Proclamation (No. 59 of 1914) providing for the establishment of a censorship of postal and telegraphic matter in Basutoland.

(7) A Proclamation (No. 66 of 1914) to control during the present war the dissemination of news in the Territory and to prevent the spread of false intelligence or matter calculated to create alarm or to excite public feeling.

(8) Customs Management Proclamation, 1914.

(9) Customs Tariff Proclamation, 1914.

(10) Native Women Restriction Proclamation, 1915, prohibiting native women residing in Basutoland from leaving the Territory against the will of their husbands, fathers, or natural guardians.

(11) Public Service Proclamation, 1915, repealing the Public Service Proclamation, 1910, and proclaiming new regulations governing appointments to, and promotions in, the Public Service of Basutoland.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Post Office.

An additional Postal Agency has been established at Koeneng in the Leribe District, rendered necessary owing to the increased needs of the native population for postal facilities in that district.

The net postal and telegraph revenue for the year amounted to £5,366 1*s*. 1*d*., of which the sums of £2,857 15*s*. 9*d*. and £1,888 10*s*. 5*d*. were for the sale of postage stamps and stamps on telegrams respectively. In addition the sum of £125 1*s*. 9*d*. was collected on cable traffic, being an increase over last year's collections of £36 8*s*. 0*d*.

The number and value of deposits and withdrawals in and from the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years are shown in the following table :—

	1913–14.	1914–15.
Deposits.		
Number ..	1,016 ..	889
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Value ..	6,544 3 6 ..	6,065 2 0
Withdrawals.		
Number ..	308 ..	377
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Value ..	4,509 12 11 ..	5,510 19 4

It will be observed that the total number of deposits was 127 less than in the previous year, whilst the withdrawals were 69 more, and that the average amount of each deposit was less than half the average amount of each withdrawal. This is an unfortunate state of things, the more so as Savings Bank business had begun to show most satisfactory signs of development in Basutoland, but it is due unquestionably to the general disturbance of conditions in South Africa by the

war in Europe, and it is hoped that there will be a full recovery in proper time.

The following comparative table shows the number and amount of money orders and postal orders issued and paid during the last two years :—

Year.	Issued.		Paid.	
	Number.	Amount. £	Number.	Amount. £
1913–14 ..	28,532	40,450	20,530	38,098
1914–15 ..	27,493	39,031	19,282	31,436
Decrease ..	1,039	£1,419	1,248	£6,662

PUBLIC WORKS.

The bridge over the Caledon River at Peka which was begun in August, 1913, is now complete and open for traffic. It is an iron girder bridge on masonry piers, the centre span being 150 feet and the two side spans 100 feet each. A small bridge near Morija on the main road south has been built over a stream called the Lerato and is proving a great convenience to the public. An addition of new accommodation for female prisoners has been made to the gaol at Maseru, the work being carried out by the Government Industrial School. Additional cells have also been built at Mohale's Hoek gaol. The hutting for the police at various stations has now been completed.

GAOLS.

There are seven gaols and two lock-ups in Basutoland, and during the year under review, 1,161 prisoners passed through them as compared with 964 during the year 1913–14.

CRIME AND POLICE.

The Police Force of the Territory on the 31st March, 1915, was of the following strength :—

European Inspectors	3
European Sub-Inspectors	10
European Constables	9
Native Officers	3
Native Constables	1
Native Sergeants	10
Native Corporals	14
Native Privates	262
Native Special Police	214

The native special police shown above are employed as border guards in the Quthing and Qachas Nek Districts as a precautionary measure against the introduction of east coast fever into the Territory from Natal or East Griqualand. They are not uniformed, with the exception of an arm badge, but, like the regular force, are mounted. Owing to the improved outlook as regards east coast fever, it has been possible to reduce the number of these special police on the Qachas Nek-Natal border, but it has been considered advisable to augment their numbers on the Quthing-East Griqualand border. However, a total reduction of about 50 has been effected.

The following table shows the convictions for liquor smuggling during the last seven years, but it is feared that the number of arrests made is small in comparison with the number of undetected smugglers :—

1908–09	.. ..	79 convictions,
1909–10	.. ..	90 ,,
1910–11	.. ..	148 ,,
1911–12 (9 months ended 31st March, 1912)	.. .. ..	100 ,,
1912–13	.. ..	186 ,,
1913–14	.. ..	222 ,,
1914–15	.. ..	160 ,,

From this table it will be noticed that there is a considerable reduction in the number of convictions for liquor smuggling, the first reduction in fact that can be shown. An increased use appears to be being made of a liquor called " qhali," an intoxicating compound made from a distillation of golden syrup, the traffic in which it is most difficult to control. This, together with the energetic efforts of the police, probably combine as the cause of the reduction. It is probable also that the example of the Paramount Chief Griffith, who is an abstainer, has had its influence in this matter. He has himself assisted the police to effect arrests, and the encouragement he has given by his example and actions to the suppression of liquor smuggling has doubtless made itself felt among the chiefs and people, and has been an indirect assistance to the police.

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

The following table shows the number of patients treated at the Government hospitals and dispensaries for the last two years :—

Year.	In-patients.	Out-patients (new cases).	Out-patients (subsequent attendance).
1913–14	1,977	40,195	10,976
1914–15	1,850	38,619	13,477

The epidemic of small-pox which was prevalent in certain districts of southern Basutoland last year has died out. In July, 1914, there was a slight outbreak in the Mohale's Hoek district, which lingered on till October, the total number of cases being 30, but no deaths. There were minor outbreaks in the Mafeteng district (10 cases, no deaths) and Maseru district (8 cases, 1 death); but since October last no cases have been reported from any of the districts. The number of vaccinations performed during the year was 30,042.

There has been a severe outbreak of enteric fever throughout the Territory: 600 cases were seen at the dispensaries and 112 cases were admitted into hospital, of whom 20 died. Many of the latter had been brought long distances and were in the second week of the disease on admission into the hospitals. Reports of severe outbreaks with a high mortality were received from missionaries, traders, and others, and the 600 cases seen as out-patients do not represent more than a tithe of the total number of cases in the Territory. Dysentery was prevalent, but the disease was of a mild type. There was a slight increase in the ratio of tuberculosis to other diseases, being ·73 per cent. for the year under review, as against ·66 per cent. for 1913, while the total number of cases increased from 268 in 1913 to 285 in 1914.

Owing to the large number of attendances at the dispensaries which, in spite of the slight reduction shown in the figures for the year under report, is too large to be dealt with satisfactorily by one doctor, the fee payable by native out-patients has been raised from 6*d*. to 1*s*.

The Leper Settlement at Botsabelo has passed through a trying year. The total number of natives gathered from the whole Territory and certified and sent to the asylum was 693; 65 were treated as suspects and instructed to come up again for examination after periods varying from three to six months. Escapes from the asylum have been not infrequent; the escaped lepers are in many cases still at large. On the 31st March there were 458 inmates. The total number of deaths at the Settlement during the year under review was 94 males and 55 females. There were 12 discharged as arrested cases.

GENERAL.

In April the Annual Meeting of the National Council was held. Nothing of importance beyond the domestic concerns of the tribe was discussed.

Towards the latter end of June the High Commissioner, Lord Gladstone, paid a flying visit to Basutoland. The Paramount and principal Chiefs came into Maseru to pay their respects to him on his departure from South Africa.

On the outbreak of the European war the Paramount and other Chiefs sent in to the Resident Commissioner expressions of loyalty, and asked in what way they could assist the Imperial Government.

C.O. Nº 61.

Ordnance Survey Office Southampton 1915

Realising it was useless to offer their services in any military capacity, the Paramount Chief started a voluntary collection from the tribe towards the Prince of Wales's Fund, and though the lists are not yet finally closed, some £2,000 has been deposited with Government. On completion of the collection the amount will be remitted through the High Commissioner.

The closing of the diamond mines threw a great number of Basuto labourers out of work. The diamond mines being more popular than the gold mines, the great majority of the labourers were in the habit of going to work there. After waiting for a period to see whether the diamond mines would reopen, these labourers gradually began going to the gold mines, and the number of passes issued to native labourers to proceed to work on the gold mines amounted to 29,523.

The season has been an excellent one; large quantities of wheat have been harvested, and maize and Kafir-corn are sufficiently advanced to warrant an anticipated heavy yield.

Inter-tribal disturbances have been conspicuous by their absence excepting in the Berea district, where a local headman, Phatso Mota refused to obey the orders of his Chief, Masupha, and in consequence had his stock raided. The case was dealt with by the Resident Commissioner in conjunction with the Paramount Chief and his councillors.

Several officers of the Administration have been granted leave to serve either with Union or Imperial forces during the course of the war.

CHAS. E. BOYES,

Government Secretary,

Basutoland.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
822	Grenada	1913
823	Zanzibar	,,
824	Barbados	1913–1914
825	Southern Nigeria	1913
826	Mauritius	,,
827	British Honduras	,,
828	Colonial Survey Committee	1913–1914
829	Tongan Islands Protectorate	,,
830	Swaziland	,,
831	Uganda	,,
832	Nyasaland	,,
833	British Guiana	,,
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology	1914
835	St. Vincent	1913–1914
836	St. Lucia	,,
837	Somaliland	,,
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913–1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	,,
841	Leeward Islands	,,
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	,,
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
845	Weihaiwei	,,
846	Seychelles	,,
847	St. Helena	,,
848	Fiji	,,
849	Bahamas	1914–1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	,,
852	Grenada	1914–1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914–1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	,,
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914–1915

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

No. 911.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1915-16.

(For Report for 1914-15 see No. 858.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

December, 1916.

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A sketch map will be found in the previous Report, No. 858.

[Cd. 7622--49.]

No. 911.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1914–15 see No. 858.)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

High Commissioner's Office,
Cape Town,
20th October, 1916.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland forwarding the Annual Report and Blue Book of the Territory for the year ended March 31st, 1916.

I have, &c.,

BUXTON,
High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
A. Bonar Law, M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Maseru,
10th October, 1916.

MY LORD,

I have the honour to forward the Blue Book for the year ended 31st March, 1916, together with the Annual Report for the same period.

I have, &c.,

R. T. CORYNDON,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency,
The High Commissioner for South Africa.

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FINANCIAL.

The revenue of Basutoland for the financial year ended 31st March, 1916, amounted to £176,202 and the ordinary expenditure to £153,677, an excess of revenue over expenditure of £22,525. In addition to ordinary expenditure a sum of £2,514 was spent on the completion of certain works of a permanent nature, authorized to be met from funds representing the accumulated surpluses of former years.

The following table shows the revenue collected during the past three years :—

Revenue.

	1913–14.	1914–15.	1915–16.
	£	£	£
Native Tax	96,393	97,436	105,144
Customs	45,214	34,898	46,971
Post Office	5,287	5,409	5,833
Licences	* 5,922	3,821	3,174
Fees of Court or Office ..	473	593	625
Judicial Fines	—	2,611	7,877
Fees for Services rendered ..	—	2,576	2,432
Interest	4,538	3,410	2,660
Miscellaneous Receipts ..	† 3,590	857	1,486
Total ..	£161,417	£151,611	£176,202

* In these figures are included Judicial Fines.

† Fees for services rendered are included in this amount.

It will be seen that this year's revenue shows an excess on the previous year of £24,591, which is mainly accounted for by collections under the three heads of revenue, Native Tax, Customs, and Judicial Fines.

The generally improved conditions prevailing throughout the Territory and increased efforts on the part of collectors resulted in an increased collection of Native Tax amounting to £7,708. Under the head Customs the increase on the previous year's collection amounted to £12,073. Receipts, however, under this head depend on the Customs collection in the Union—Basutoland receiving a definite proportion—under one per cent. Fines imposed by the Resident Commissioner's Court in two political cases were largely responsible for the increase of £5,266 under the head " Judicial Fines."

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Expenditure.

The following is a return of the expenditure during the last three years :—

	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.
	£	£	£
Establishments	15,115	15,886	17,489
Police	22,243	22,923	22,364
Post Office	4,963	5,127	5,788
Allowances—Chiefs, etc. ..	7,034	11,271	12,150
Office Contingencies	2,690	2,130	—
Administration of Justice ..	4,323	4,727	4,806
Public Works Recurrent ..	32,170	24,060	21,126
Public Works Extraordinary	12,205	4,029	3,046
Medical	13,680	13,516	13,095
Education	16,771	18,544	17,632
Rewards for Special Services	86	—	—
Audit	514	507	375
Miscellaneous..	6,708	1,204	* 2,614
Agriculture	7,999	5,967	5,570
Prevention of east coast fever	10,195	9,940	8,003
National Council	1,411	2,013	1,449
Pensions	3,805	3,995	3,580
Leper Settlement	3,707	15,093	14,589
Capital Expenditure from surplus Balances	37,842	9,152	2,514
Total ..	£203,461	£170,084	£156,190

* Office Contingencies included in these figures.

Owing to the continuation of the War, expenditure was restricted as far as possible and but few new works were undertaken. Compared with the previous year, ordinary expenditure for this year shows a decrease of £7,255.

The following is a statement showing expenditure during past years, and up to 31st March, 1916, on capital expenditure from surplus balances :—

	£
Hospitals	13,513
Bridges and Roads	29,568
Agriculture	12,810
Headquarter offices	5,480
Water supplies	6,607
Telephone lines	7,870
Leper Settlement	38,109
Sundry	1,400
	£115,357

ing company, inc.
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The following is a statement of assets and liabilities on the 31st March, 1916 :—

Assets.

	£	s.	d.
Balance at Standard Bank of South Africa ..	17,717	3	9
Balance in hands of Sub-Accountants	11,941	10	11
Balance with Crown Agents	1,134	10	0
On deposit with Crown Agents	6,000	0	0
On loan to Swaziland Administration	72,500	0	0
On fixed deposit with Standard Bank of South Africa	10,000	0	0
Advances recoverable	48	10	0
	£119,341	14	8

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Deposits from Master of Court ..	5,562	13	4			
Deposits from Labour Agents ..	1,100	0	0			
Balance of Sub-Accountants' Suspense Account	390	9	0			
				7,053	2	4
Balance of assets in excess of liabilities ..				112,288	12	4
				£119,341	14	8

TRADE.

In common with the rest of South Africa, Basutoland importers have experienced great difficulty in maintaining supplies of merchandise from oversea, and the small shipments which have come through have had to bear greatly increased freights, plus dearer raw material, and more expensive labour in manufacture.

The advances have been most keenly felt in cotton, and woollen goods, such as prints, sheetings, hosiery, and shirts; also in cotton and woollen blankets and rugs, which form such a large portion of the trade of the territory.

As an instance of the advance in cost of the last mentioned class of goods the cloth for blankets and rugs, pre-war prices for which ranged from 1*s.* 9*d.* to 3*s.* per pound, cannot be bought in England at the present time for less than 5*s.* to 8*s.* per pound.

The result has been that most of the cheaper lines in these articles have almost entirely disappeared; for instance, the sixpenny and shilling cotton blankets, and the moderate priced wool rug, selling at from 6*s.* to 10*s.*, so much in demand for children and people of the poorer class, are practically unobtainable.

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Boots—particularly for men—have advanced to such an extent that all cheaper lines have entirely dropped out; but fortunately this want has been largely filled by the Colonial-made veldtschoen, which, for practicable purposes and durability, possibly gives the purchaser better value for his money.

From the foregoing it will be gathered that the value of goods imported into the Territory during the period under review, has probably been below the average for the last two years.

Speaking generally the crops harvested in 1915 were good, and considerable quantities of both wheat and maize were exported.

The reports for the latter part of 1915 and early 1916 were not encouraging, frost having fallen early in March, and considerable damage was done to that portion of the crop which was still in a tender condition.

Enquiries were immediately sent out, and the replies received from the various districts indicate that, while there will be sufficient for the food supply of the territory as a whole, there will be little, if any maize or kaffir corn for export.

In some districts there may even be a shortage, but there will be a sufficient surplus in other parts to make good the deficiency, so it is hoped there will be no actual hunger.

Wool and mohair, at both autumn and spring shearings, realized excellent prices; it is doubtful, however, whether the actual quantity has increased or whether the country under present conditions can safely carry larger flocks.

The Statistical Bureau having been abolished immediately after the Union of South Africa, no figures have been available of the imports and exports of the various Provinces and Native Territories.

A special effort was made towards the close of 1915 to obtain statistics regarding the wool and mohair industry of Basutoland, and it was found that during the past decade the approximate increase has been as follows:—

The total weight exported rose from 4,400,000 lb. in 1906, to 13,900,000 lb. in 1915, and the total local value from £109,000 to £330,000 during the same period.

The above results are certainly encouraging, and go a long way to counter-balance the serious decrease in production and export of cereals, as compared with the closing twenty years of last century.

It is doubtful if, with changes in climatic conditions which are responsible for the decrease in agricultural returns, any increase in the number of sheep and goats is probable or desirable; but with improved methods in the direction of systematic dipping, the destruction of burrweed, and the gradual discontinuance of the cruel practice of shearing in the late autumn and early spring, at the time when small stock need their natural protection, it is not too much to hope that the figures now quoted will be maintained.

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The losses in horned cattle have been considerably less than last year, and prices have been in favour of sellers.

Perhaps, if ever it should be possible, it may be wise for the Government to consider the advisability of introducing bulls of a hardy and virile type. The native herds are sadly in need of new blood; but this is a subject which will require careful consideration in view of severe winters, and scarcity of cattle feed.

Owing to the closing down of the diamond mines, demand for Native labour has not been so great as in former years, and there has been a considerable reduction in earning and spending power from that source.

VETERINARY.

The past year has been a much more favourable one for stock, both with regard to drought and serious animal diseases. All classes of stock have thriven far better than for some previous years, partly due, no doubt, to the reduction in numbers from continued droughts and also due to the better grazing conditions, the result of a better and more even rainfall.

Except for the continued prevalence of anthrax the other diseases, such as horse sickness and blue tongue, were conspicuous by their absence. There have been eight outbreaks of anthrax in different parts of the Territory, causing considerable cattle mortality, and in some cases there have been a few deaths amongst horses. It is difficult to get the natives to observe the proper precautions with regard to dead carcases; the only hope under such conditions of quickly stamping out the disease is to render all contact animals immune by inoculation. Natives, for the most part, are willing to have their stock inoculated when the mortality appears to assume serious proportions, but it is often difficult to get them to see the wisdom of this precaution at the outset of the trouble. During the year 882 animals have been inoculated with good results, and more would have been done had it been possible to obtain necessary vaccine.

East Coast Fever.

The position with regard to this disease has continued to improve and guards are now withdrawn from the Natal border. An outbreak occurred in the Matatiele district, which goes to show that it is still necessary to be on the alert in East Griqualand section of the border. During the year no known attempt to bring cattle into the Territory was discovered. All outbreaks of cattle disease have been investigated. During the year 192 slides have been examined microscopically.

In addition to the export of cattle on this border being permitted via Bushmans Nek, arrangements were made with the Union Government for the export of cattle through our gate at Qachas Nek. This has proved of considerable economic importance to the Qachas Nek

district, no less than 3,731 animals having been exported during the year, and, as these cattle are mostly fat oxen, this must represent a considerable sum of money. All cattle exported at Qachas Nek have to be " tick-free " and branded.

Strangles.

This disease has again been very prevalent, and during the summer took on a rather severe form. Experiments have been made with the vaccine now claimed to immunise and cure animals. Attempts to immunise the Police horses did not prove very successful, but it is hoped that with a new vaccine and using not less than 200,000,000 organisms at each dose a very valuable addition to the treatment of this serious equine disease will be arrived at.

Biliary Fever.

Numerous animals have been treated for this disease and, thanks to trypan blau inoculation, the losses have been reduced to a minimum.

Quarter evil has not been so prevalent and only 397 doses of vaccine have been issued.

Parasites.

Sheep have not suffered so badly this year from wire worm, but horses continue to be infected with parasites and a very large number of animals have been treated.

Sheep Scab.

During the year under review 131,558 sheep were dipped at the various Government dipping tanks, as compared with 284,114 last year. Owing to the number of officers who are away on leave serving with the military forces in various parts of the world, it was found necessary to transfer the officer who had been in charge of the Government dipping tanks to another department, and this no doubt partly accounts for the reduction in the figures for this year. It is hoped that it will be found possible, later on, to renew the appointment for the carrying on of this useful work.

Stud Department.

The climatic conditions this year fortunately proved far more favourable for stud work, and it is hoped there will be a much higher percentage of foals during the next spring.

During the season 463 mares were covered by Government stallions.

The severe drought effects of the previous summer told its tale in the return of foals, and this was well illustrated in the Quthing district where 37 mares were covered by Government stallions and no less than 18 of these aborted, and in the entire returns 50 mares are returned under this heading. Out of a total of 383 mares there were 120 live foals born, and of these 52 were sired in the Maseru district.

It was very gratifying to see some really good young horses at most of the agricultural shows, the progeny of the Government stallions taking a very large share of the prizes in all classes. At the Maseru show there was an excellent exhibit of progeny of the Government stallions and some of the prize winners were quite good enough to exhibit at any European show in the Union.

EDUCATION.

For the first time since 1908 a fall in the average attendance of pupils has to be recorded. Minor causes, such as a slight recrudescence of heathenism, may have contributed to this decrease but the principal factor has undoubtedly been the inability of the Government to maintain in 1914–15 the normal increase of grants for the support of new schools.

These schools, situated mostly in heathen areas, have a great difficulty in coming into being. The parents in such places are not sufficiently interested in the decent upbringing of their children. The existence of these schools depends therefore upon the efforts of a few of the more enlightened parents, the continued pressure of the teacher, the keenness of the children, and, above all, upon the financial support of the Governments.

Mention has previously been made of the good work which these out-of-the-way schools do for the prosperity and general wellbeing of the country. Though crude and perhaps even inefficient from the point of view of actual education, they are for many of the children who enter them the only thing in their lives which stands for sober and decent living. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the schools will recover rapidly from the set-back experienced in 1915.

The following table shows the total daily average attendance of pupils in elementary schools and boarding institutions during recent years :—

TABLE I.

Table of Total Average Attendance in Schools and Institutions.

Year ending December.			Year ending December.		
1902	..	9,057	1909	..	9,498
1903	..	10,024	1910	..	11,651
1904	..	10,041	1911	..	13,417
1905	..	9,963	1912	..	15,271
1906	..	9,704	1913	..	17,070
1907	..	9,454	1914	..	17,643
1908	..	9,279	1915	..	17,167

Tables II., III., IV, give the enrolment of pupils in schools and institutions separately.

TABLE II.

Enrolment of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1914.			Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1915.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	6,327	11,762	18,089	6,837	11,045	17,882
Church of England	869	1,661	2,530	909	1,581	2,490
Roman Catholic	336	1,560	1,896	430	1,608	2,038
	7,532	14,983	22,515	8,176	14,234	22,410

TABLE III.

Average Attendance of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	Year ending December, 1914.			Year ending December, 1915.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	4,810	8,751	13,561	5,001	8,069	13,070
Church of England..	665	1,267	1,932	648	1,114	1,762
Roman Catholic	291	1,299	1,590	350	1,314	1,664
	5,766	11,317	17,083	5,999	10,497	16,496

TABLE IV.

Government Grants to Missions.

Mission.	Elementary Schools. £	Institutions. £	Total. £
Paris Evangelical Mission Society ..	8,673	2,500	11,173
Church of England	1,257	400	1,657
Roman Catholic ..	1,070	350	1,420
	£11,000	£3,250	£14,250

Table V.

Enrolment of Pupils in Institutions.

Church or other Institution controlling agency.		No. of Pupils on Roll, December, 1914.			No. of Pupils on Roll, December, 1915.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Morija	*P.E.M.S.	158	—	158	176	—	176
Th. Morena	,, ...	—	50	50	—	44	44
Leloaleng	,, ...	70	—	70	70	—	70
Masite	†C. of E.	21	—	21	19	—	19
Maseru	,, ...	—	18	18	—	31	31
Roma	‡R.C.	62	234	296	85	246	331
		311	302	613	350	321	671

Table VI.

Elementary Schools according to size and Denomination.

Mission.	Average Attendance, December, 1915.					
	20 to 45	45 to 70	70 to 100	100 to 200	Over 200	Total.
*P.E.M.S. ..	102	53	43	28	1	232
†C. of E. ..	16	11	5	3	—	35
‡R.C. ..	3	1	6	8	1	19
	121	70	54	39	2	286

*Paris Evangelical Mission Society.
†Church of England.
‡Roman Catholic.

Table VI. is interesting as showing to what an extent the smaller schools (*i.e.*, those below 70 in average attendance) participate in the Government grant. Out of 286 schools, nearly 200 come under this heading and are, for the most part, schools remote from camps and missionary centres. In the absence of a map of the schools, which would show still more clearly the wide-spread nature of education in the territory. The above Table is specially instructive.

TABLE VII.

Pupils in European Schools.

	Roll on last day of quarter ended 31st March, 1915.	Roll on last day of quarter ended 31st March, 1916.
Leribe	14	8
Teyateyaneng	13	9
Maseru	39	42
Mafeteng	23	27
Mohale's Hoek	6	7

Education of an elementary nature is provided at the above schools for children of European parentage. Excellent work is being done, and the pupils who leave these schools after passing, say Standard V. or VI., have no difficulty in taking their places in the larger schools outside this territory to which they generally proceed for the completion of their school education.

A bursary of £20 a year (tenable for two years) is competed for annually by pupils under 13 years of age, and the spirit of competition has done a good deal to stimulate not only the candidates, but the pupils generally throughout these schools.

POST OFFICE.

The net postal, telegraph, and telephone revenue collections for the year amounted to £4,976 4*s.* 5*d.*, of which the sums of £3,037 10*s.* 1*d.* and £1,377 16*s.* 10*d.* were for the sale of postage stamps and stamps on telegrams respectively. In addition the sum of £94 18*s.* 6*d.* was collected on cable traffic.

The number and value of deposits and withdrawals in and from the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years are shown in the following table :—

	1914–15.	1915–16.
Deposits.		
Number ..	889	.. 1,173
Value ..	£ *s.* *d.* 6,065 2 0	.. £ *s.* *d.* 5,984 2 3
Withdrawals.		
Number ..	377	.. 357
Value ..	£ *s.* *d.* 5,510 19 4	.. £ *s.* *d.* 5,337 9 9

It will be observed that there were 294 more deposits than in the previous year and that the amount of deposits was £80 19*s.* 9*d.* less. The withdrawals totalled 20 more than in 1914–15, although the amount withdrawn was £173 9*s.* 7*d.* less than previously.

The following comparative table shows the number and amount of money orders and postal orders issued and paid during the last two years :—

Year.	Issued.		Paid.	
	Number.	Amount. £	Number.	Amount. £
1914–15 ..	27,493	39,031	19,282	31,436
1915–16 ..	27,944	30,217	18,962	21,083

PUBLIC WORKS.

No works of any magnitude have been carried out during the year under report. Among minor works may be mentioned the building at Maseru, by the Government Industrial School, of accommodation for native councillors. At the Leper Settlement at Botsabelo a new prison has been built by the Industrial School to hold fifty natives. At Quthing a large store at the Government Offices and an addition to the gaol have been built by the Industrial School of the P.E.M.S.

GAOLS.

There are seven gaols and two lock-ups in Basutoland, and during the year under review 1,717 prisoners passed through them as compared with 1,161 during the year 1914–15.

CRIME AND POLICE.

The Police Force of the Territory on the 31st March, 1916, was of the following strength :—

European Inspectors	3
European Sub-Inspectors	10
European Constables	7
Native Officers	3
Native Sergeants	10
Native Corporals	14
Native Privates	261
Native Special Police	173

Of the European Officers, four are away on War leave, and are serving in the Imperial Army in various parts.

The native special police shown above are employed as border guards in the Quthing and Qachas Nek districts as a precautionary measure against the introduction of east coast fever into the Territory, from Natal and East Griqualand. They are not uniformed, with the exception of an arm badge, but, like the regular force, are mounted. Owing however to the continued improved outlook as regards east coast fever, it has been possible further to reduce the number of these special police, particularly along the Qachas Nek-Natal border, but as regards the East Griqualand border it has not been considered advisable to effect a similar reduction.

The following table shows the number of convictions for liquor smuggling for the last eight years :—

1908–09	79	convictions.
1909–10	90	,,
1910–11	148	,,
1911–12 (nine months ended 31st March, 1912)	100	,,
1912–13	186	,,
1913–14	222	,,
1914–15	160	,,
1915–16	150	,,

It is gratifying to note that the decrease apparent last year for the first time has been maintained, and it is to be hoped that a healthier public opinion, backed up by the example of the Paramount Chief, and aided by the energetic efforts of the police, is beginning to make itself felt among the people.

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

As was stated in last year's report, the fee payable by native out-patients for attendance at the Government dispensaries was raised from 6*d.* to 1*s.* The increased fee has had the effect of considerably diminishing the total number of cases treated during the year by eliminating trivial cases and enabling the Medical Officers to devote more attention to cases that required it. The change has not affected the number of in-patients, which remains practically the same. The following table shows the number of patients treated at the Government hospitals and dispensaries for the last two years :—

Year.	In-patients.	Out-patients (new cases).	Out-patients (subsequent attendances).
1914–15	1,850	38,619	13,477
1915–16	1,841	23,575	9,302

There has been a marked absence of serious epidemic deseases during the year. The general health of the community during the year has been good. Enteric fever has been less evident, partly due to the introduction of anti-typhoid vaccination, which has been fairly general throughout the camps, and has been carried out as far as possible in the districts also.

Leper Settlement.

On the 1st April, 1915, there were 223 male and 236 female inmates. During the year 67 new cases were admitted; 3 were discharged as "arrested cases"; there were 105 deaths, 8 births, and 182 desertions; 118 deserters were returned. On the 31st March, 1916, there were 178 male and 167 female inmates.

The reasons given for desertions are first, the longing for their homes and children; secondly, the non-return of some of the deserters.

There is no doubt that some of the Chiefs take an interest and assist greatly by returning deserters, but others are very lax. The behaviour of the inmates seems to be improving. Every care is taken for their comfort and well-being in circumstances that cannot be otherwise than depressing. Food and accommodation is adequate and satisfactory, cleanliness is strictly observed, and discipline is not stricter than is found to be necessary.

One great drawback at the Asylum is the scarcity of water. The present supply consists of a borehole and four small springs, the water from which is collected in a reservoir holding 40,000 gallons. This supply is not adequate or certain. Much enquiry is being devoted to improving the water supply, as scrupulous cleanliness is essential. The drainage system is not too good, but it is being improved. The cost of the Settlement is considerable, but expenses are being kept down.

Good work has been done by the staff, although it is shorthanded, owing to certain members being allowed to proceed to Europe for war service.

GENERAL.

In April the Paramount Chief and ten of his principal chiefs proceeded to Cape Town to pay their respect to his Excellency Viscount Buxton, who had succeeded Lord Gladstone as High Commissioner. The chiefs expressed the sincere feeling of loyalty which animates the Basuto people, and Lord Buxton announced his desire to visit the Territory as soon as possible.

During the month of May the relations between the chiefs Jonathan and Joel in the Leribe district, which for many years past have not been of a friendly nature, reached a crisis. The ostensible cause of quarrel was the ownership of certain grazing and other rights in the high mountain area lying east of Hlotse. When Chief Joel felt that active hostilities could not be prevented, he sent to the Government for instructions, and was recommended not to take up arms. It was not found possible to prevent Jonathan from taking active steps, and his people, in charge of some of his sons, raided into the mountains. Many villages were burnt and numbers of stock of all descriptions were driven off by Jonathan's people. In the hearing of the important case which followed, the Resident Commissioner (Sir Herbert Sloley)

was assisted by the Paramount Chief and all his most important chiefs, as assessors. The evidence was exhaustive, and the verdict and sentence of the Resident Commissioner met with the unanimous approval of the assessors. Chief Jonathan was found to be responsible for the grave disturbances, and was fined a thousand head of cattle, and four of his more important sons were fined fifty head each; the stock looted from Chief Joel's people was ordered to be returned. Steps were taken, according to Basuto custom, to recover the stolen stock, and approximately £2,800 worth was recovered and handed over to Joel. That chief, however, was not satisfied with the amount, and further enquiries were set on foot. The matter is still under consideration.

On the 1st September Sir Herbert Sloley was granted leave of absence prior to retirement, and Mr. Barry May, Deputy Resident Commissioner and Treasurer, acted as Resident Commissioner. On the 11th January, Mr. R. T. Coryndon, C.M.G., late Resident Commissioner of Swaziland, arrived at Maseru and assumed duties of Resident Commissioner.

A special session of the Basutoland Council was summoned for 12th January, when Sir Herbert Sloley bade farewell to the Basuto after a residence in the Territory of thirty-two years: Mr. Coryndon was introduced to the Council as the new Resident Commissioner.

In view of a probable visit to Basutoland in the near future of the High Commissioner, and to enable Mr. Coryndon to make himself acquainted with outstanding questions in the Territory, the Session of the Council was adjourned *sine die*, notice being given that it would be summoned when the date of His Excellency's intended visit was known.

The War in Europe has not affected the Territory to any great extent. Certain commodities have gone up in price and others are difficult to obtain; it has also increased the general cost of living to a considerable extent. Numbers of Europeans have left Basutoland to take part in the War, and as twenty-two members of the Administration have been granted leave for the same purpose, it has been found necessary to employ extra temporary assistance for the duration of the War.

The heavy harvests anticipated last year were not realized, owing to want of rain and early frosts. In some districts perhaps a third of the crop was reaped and still less in other parts. On the whole, however, there has been no definite want, though a shortage of the staple articles of food produced in the country has been noticable in many areas.

C. E. Boyes,

Government Secretary,

Basutoland.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
877	Trinidad and Tobago	1914–1915
878	Nigeria	1914
879	Cayman Islands	1914–1915
880	St. Lucia	,,
881	East Africa Protectorate	,,
882	Imperial Institute	1914
883	Nyasaland	1914–1915
884	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	,,
885	Weihaiwei	1915
886	Zanzibar	,,
887	Fiji	,,
888	Sierra Leone	,,
889	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
890	Gambia	,,
891	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
892	Hong Kong	,,
893	Ashanti	,,
894	Gold Coast	,,
895	Malta	1915–1916
896	St. Helena	1915
897	Seychelles	,,
898	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1915–1916
899	Gibraltar	1915
900	Bahamas	1915–1916
901	Swaziland	,,
902	Somaliland	,,
903	Cyprus	,,
904	Ceylon	1915
905	Straits Settlements	,,
906	Grenada	1915–1916
907	Falkland Islands	1915
908	Bermuda	,,
909	Jamaica	1915–1916
910	British Guiana	1915

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 947.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1916-17.

(For Report for 1915–16 see No. 911.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
January, 1918.

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A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914–15, No. 858. [Cd. 7622–49.]

No. 947.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1915–16 see No. 911.)

BASUTOLAND ANNUAL REPORT 1916–17.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue of Basutoland for the financial year ended 31st March, 1917, amounted to £177,821 and the ordinary expenditure to £164,402, an excess of revenue over expenditure of £13,419. In addition to this the sum of £7,036 was spent on new works and charged to the h d "Capital Expenditure."

The following table represents the revenue collected during the past three years :—

Revenue.

	1914–15.	1915–16.	1916–17.
	£	£	£
Native Tax	97,436	105,144	102,746
Customs	34,898	46,971	51,392
Post Office	5,409	5,833	5,291
Licences	3,821	3,174	6,867
Fees of Court or Office ..	593	625	616
Judicial Fines	2,611	7,877	3,873
Fees for Services rendered ..	2,576	2,432	2,470
Interest	3,410	2,660	2,835
Miscellaneous Receipts ..	857	1,533	1,731
Total ..	£151,611	£176,249	£177,821

From the above figures it will be seen that the revenue for the past year shows an increase on the previous year of £1,572, for which receipts under the heads of "Customs" and "Licences" are mainly responsible.

Notwithstanding a voluntary contribution by the Basuto nation to Imperial War Funds of nearly £50,000, the tax collection was up to expectations, while receipts under the head of "Customs" show an increase when compared with the previous year of £4,421. The revenue derived from Customs, however, depends almost entirely on the Customs collections in the Union of South Africa, Basutoland receiving a definite proportion. The increase under the head "Licences" was due to the increased charges for traders' and hawkers' licences, the former having been increased from £10 to £25 per annum and the latter from £1 to £2 per month.

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Expenditure.

The following is a statement showing the expenditure during the last three years:—

	1914–15.	1915–16.	1916–17.
	£	£	£
Establishments	15,886	17,525	17,569
Police	22,923	22,364	23,633
Post Office	5,127	5,788	5,936
Allowances to Chiefs, etc. ..	11,271	12,150	8,823
Office Contingencies	2,130	—	—
Administration of Justice ..	4,727	4,806	4,949
Public Works Recurrent ..	24,060	21,272	28,914
Medical	13,516	13,096	13,270
Education	18,544	17,632	18,543
Audit	507	375	568
Miscellaneous	1,204	*2,614	*4,617
Agriculture	5,967	5,570	5,786
Prevention of East Coast fever	9,940	8,003	6,733
National Council	2,013	1,449	1,696
Pensions	3,995	3,580	4,449
Leper Settlement	15,093	14,636	15,504
Capital Expenditure from surplus Balances	9,152	2,514	7,036
Total ..	£170,084	£156,237	£171,438

* Office Contingencies included in these figures.

From the foregoing statement it will be seen that after eliminating Capital Expenditure the Ordinary Expenditure for the past year amounted to £164,402 as against £153,723 for the previous year. Enhanced prices are mostly responsible for much of the increase. Under Public Works Recurrent an excess of £7,642 on the previous year was incurred. Of this amount the sum of £3,500 was expended on putting into repair the roads, many of which, owing to the reduction in the amount spent on roads during the year 1915–16, were badly in need of repair.

During the year the sum of £10,000 was invested in War Loans.

The balance of assets in excess of liabilities on the 31st March, 1917, amounted to £135,518 4*s.* 3*d.*

TRADE.

The difficulty in obtaining supplies from Europe, mentioned in last year's report, has been accentuated during the season 1916–17. The Imperial Government has found it necessary to prohibit the exportation of a great number of groceries, and other commodities, usually obtained from overseas, so that it would appear that South Africa must depend to a greater extent upon its own resources and be content to do without many of the luxuries it has hitherto looked upon as necessaries. The

prohibition also applies to a very considerable extent to cotton and woollen manufactures, the Army having taken complete control of the output of rugs and blankets of every description. It follows that suppliers of these articles have been compelled to cancel existing contracts. This also applies in a large measure to boots and clothing.

The total value of merchandise imported into this territory during the period under review amounted to £666,979. It would appear to be improbable that these figures can be maintained during the present year, especially when it is remembered that America's entry into the War will materially reduce our imports from that country. A considerable percentage of the above amount, however, consists of South African grown and manufactured goods, such as boots, jams, sugar, and many other articles in daily use. The latest official figures previously available were for the year ending 31st December, 1909. The total Basutoland imports for that year were of the value of £254,000 of which one-fifth was of South African origin. Assuming that the proportion as between imports from overseas and goods of South African origin has been about the same—and there is no means of proving, or disproving, this assumption without calling for separate returns—the figures for 1916 would stand approximately as follows :—

From Overseas	£533,000
From Union of South Africa ..	133,000

These figures show a very considerable increase during the past seven years.

The following table gives the quantity and value of exports of produce for the calendar year 1916 :—

	Quantity.	*Value.*
Horses	662	£ 7,469
Cattle	13,135	79,085
Kaffir corn	76,300 bags	46,397
Maize and maize meal ..	181,248 ,,	90,835
Wheat and wheat meal ..	70,503 ,,	99,302
Mohair	2,894,184 lbs.	156,555
Wool	11,375,035 ,,	331,077
Hides	268,108 ,,	10,996
Skins	813,663 ,,	18,325
	Total	£840,041

Exports have increased since 1909 from £353,000 to £840,000. Wool and mohair represent the major portion of the increase, approximately £280,000. Cattle come next, with an increase of £70,000. Then wheat, £49,000 ; kaffir corn, £43,000, and lastly maize, with £16,000.

Reverting once more to the wool and mohair industry, it may be remembered that in the 1915–16 report, a doubt was expressed as to whether any further increase on the figures then quoted could be anticipated. As a matter of fact, the increase in weight is very small indeed, but the great appreciation in value accounts for the considerable higher amount recorded under this head. It follows that there will be a gradual return to pre-war values when hostilities cease. It is still a question whether the quantity produced during the last two

years will be increased—or even maintained—unless flock owners improve their methods very considerably.

The crop prospects for the present season are most encouraging. Reports furnished to the Chamber of Commerce indicate that in all districts, excepting Mohale's Hoek, Quthing, and Qacha's Nek, there will be plenty of food for local needs, and a large surplus for export. In the two first mentioned, it is not expected that there will be any kaffir corn for export, but that there will be a surplus of maize. In the Qacha's Nek district, it is thought that there will not be sufficient for local consumption.

The partial resumption of work at some of the diamond mines has increased the demand for native labour, with the resultant improvement in spending power from that source.

VETERINARY.

Except for anthrax and one outbreak of glanders, the territory has been free from any infectious diseases, and although the spring rains were abnormally late, there was no serious loss of stock owing to shortage of food, and the summer rains during the year have been more abundant than the territory has experienced for a considerable number of years.

I am glad to report that no outbreaks of East Coast Fever have occurred in the territory. The position on our eastern border has not grown any worse, but it is still very essential for us to protect ourselves against the introduction of cattle from infected areas. During the year 132 blood slides were examined microscopically.

Twelve outbreaks of anthrax occurred, and in dealing with them, 3,789 animals were inoculated. By far the worst outbreak occurred at Chief Mathealira's, where at one time the disease began to assume serious proportions, people, cattle, horses, sheep, and goats falling victims to the disease, and although on several previous occasions prompt inoculation had been urged it was only when this serious mortality commenced that owners began to take the advice seriously. In dealing with this outbreak 2,700 animals were inoculated. As far as one can judge, the inoculation has had a most beneficial result in this outbreak, but with the large amount of infected matter that was carelessly exposed to the air and the well-known longevity of anthrax spores one must expect to see a recrudescence of the disease when the immunity conferred by inoculation wears off. Prompt immunisation of the contact animals is the only treatment in a native area.

Although the summer months were quite wet, no cases of horse-sickness or blue tongue occurred.

Strangles, as usual, has been very prevalent, and during the drought spring a rather acute type occurred causing considerable debility and sickness amongst numbers of young horses. The treatment by inoculation of large doses of dead streptococci is realising expectations and is of great value in saving the lives of acutely infected animals.

Several cases of equine biliary fever have been treated with success, although some cases came under notice in an advanced stage of the disease.

Very large numbers of equines have been treated for worm infections and there is little doubt that Basutoland is widely infected with the common equine intestinal parasites.

Horses having died mysteriously at Quthing, the Principal Veterinary Surgeon visited the place and found an animal acutely infected with glanders. No glanders having come under observation for at least five years it was difficult to trace where the infection came from. The infected animal was destroyed and all contact animals on the Quthing Reserve (80) were tested with Mallein and three of these reacted and the diagnosis was confirmed on post-mortem examination. Some of the contact animals were re-tested, but no more gave a positive reaction and the outbreak has been successfully stamped out.

Quarter evil has not been very prevalent this year, and 504 doses of vaccin have been supplied.

In view of the large number of cattle being exported through Qacha's Nek and the want of facilities for dipping them it was considered advisable and necessary to erect a cattle-dipping tank and this has been satisfactorily done and should shortly pay for itself. During the year 10,293 cattle were exported at Qacha's Nek and of these 6,279 were Basutoland animals. There is little doubt this port of exit has proved of great economic value to traders and cattle owners in Basutoland.

During the year 133,144 sheep have been dipped, 1,588 more than last year. There are 39 dipping tanks in the territory, two of these have been erected during the year and two more are now in process of erection. As usual, the dipping tank at Hells Poort did the best work, no less than 20,848 sheep being dipped at this station. The Reit Vlei tank has also done good work, 14,421 animals passing through the dip.

9,422 sheep were dipped for export at Qacha's Nek, which indicates a considerable advantage to sheep-owners and traders in that district.

Stud Department.

There is a very appreciable increase in the number of the foals sired by Government stallions. This year 209 live foals were born, as against 120 last year, and this is the best result that has been shown since the stud work was commenced. This improvement is partly due to better climatic conditions and partly to a distinct improvement in the methods carried out at the different centres. It is regretted that two Government stallions died, viz., Mormon and Royal Rosebud. Both these horses were seventeen years old and have done excellent service to the country. It was found necessary to dispose of the thoroughbred horse Bowdon.

During the year a jack donkey was purchased with the view of trying to breed some good hardy mules suitable for pack work in the territory. No mule-breeding has been done by the Basuto and it was not certain if they would be able to realise what a paying business mule-breeding is if successfully done, but from the experience of last season it is thought that the natives will readily bring their mares for this purpose. Eighteen mares were covered during the latter part of the season by the donkey.

The South African thoroughbred Rhanleigh was also purchased and it is hoped he will prove a valuable asset to the stud. During the past season 458 mares were covered.

Agricultural Shows were held at all districts except Mohale's Hoek, and here it was not considered advisable owing to a local outbreak of anthrax.

The Shows were quite a success and are no doubt an important factor in inducing the natives to improve their stock and grow better grain. Some of the grain exhibits were excellent. There were some very good exhibits of young stock by the Government stallions and in many classes the Government-sired animals won most of the prizes.

EDUCATION.

The average attendance of pupils shows a considerable increase and the setback experienced during the school year ending December 1915 has been made good.

A gratifying feature of the new admissions is that they consist mainly of children who are quite young and therefore of a suitable age for instruction. Year by year children are being enrolled in the day schools at an earlier age and one sees fewer pupils entering at an age when their school life should be ending instead of beginning. As a result of this the age of leaving will gradually be lowered and the industrial and higher schools will benefit in their turn, for such schools depend for their success upon receiving as candidates pupils who have passed the standards of the elementary schools at a reasonably early age.

The total average attendance in schools and institutions during year ending 31st December, 1916, was 19,496, as compared with 17,643 and 17,167 in 1914 and 1915 respectively.

Tables I and II show the enrolment of pupils in elementary schools and institutions.

TABLE I.

Enrolment of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

	Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1915.			Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1916.		
Mission.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	6,837	11,045	17,882	7,762	12,315	20,077
Church of England	909	1,581	2,490	1,137	1,876	3,013
Roman Catholic	430	1,608	2,038	697	2,143	2,840
	8,176	14,234	22,410	9,596	16,334	25,930

TABLE II.

Enrolment of Pupils in Institutions.

Institution.	Church or other controlling agency.	Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1916.			
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	
Morija ..	Paris Evangelical Mission Society.	156	--	156	Normal and Higher School
Thabana Morena	,,	—	60	60	Normal and Industrial.
Leloaleng	,,	70	—	70	Industrial.
Masite ..	Church of England	19	—	19	Normal and Industrial.
Maseru ..	,,	—	34	34	Industrial.
Roma ..	Roman Catholic .	133	249	382	Normal, Industrial, and Agricultural.
	Totals ..	378	343	721	

Thus, roughly one-sixteenth of the native population is on the school roll; in other words, receiving by means of the widely spread system of schools a substantial return for taxes contributed.

TABLE III.

Average Attendance of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

	Year ending December, 1915.			Year ending December, 1916.		
Mission.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	5,001	8,069	13,070	5,851	8,790	14,641
Church of England..	648	1,114	1,762	822	1,335	2,157
Roman Catholic	350	1,314	1,664	502	1,602	2,104
	5,999	10,497	16,496	7,175	11,727	18,902

The following table shows the enrolment of pupils in schools for children of European descent :—

TABLE IV.

Name of School.	Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1916.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Maseru	23	21	44
Mafeteng	11	15	26
Leribe	6	12	18
Teyateyaneng ..	6	4	10
Morija	8	7	15
	54	59	113

These schools provide elementary education only and pupils as a rule leave Basutoland to complete their education elsewhere.

POST OFFICE.

The net postal, telegraph, and telephone revenue collections amounted to £5,862 14*s.* 0*d.*

The number and value of deposits and withdrawals in and from the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years are shown in the following table :—

	Deposits.	*Withdrawals.*
1915–16.	1,173 value £5,984.	357 value £5,337.
1916–17.	1,172 ,, £7,080.	382 ,, £5,073.

The following comparative table shows the number and amount of money orders and postal orders issued and paid during the last two years :—

	Issued.	*Paid.*
1915–16.	27,944 value £30,217.	18,962 value £21,083.
1916–17.	32,807 ,, £32,914.	24,816 ,, £28,300.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The principal works carried out during the year are as follows :—

Teyateyaneng Water Scheme.—A six-inch borehole has been sunk which is capable of yielding 200 gallons per hour and a well built over another supply with a capacity of 10,000 gallons of spring water.

Quthing Water Scheme.—An extension, which has effected a considerable improvement, has been made to the existing water supply at Quthing.

Maintenance of Roads.—There has been a considerable improvement in the condition of the main roads throughout the territory, but the traders' roads have not been improved so much as could have been desired. The system at present is, that the traders pay half the cost of repairing, but sufficient money is not being spent to make any substantial improvement. An attempt is, however, being made to encourage the traders to spend more money on their branch roads.

A New Water Scheme has been completed in Maseru for pumping up water from the River Caledon to a reservoir distant 4,000 feet from and 300 feet above the level of the bed of the river. The reservoir holds 200,000 gallons of water and is situated near the European Cemetery, at the highest level in Maseru. The plant consists of a suction gas engine with producer and a Tangye's triple ram pump, capable of delivering 10,000 gallons per hour. The distribution pipes have been laid from the reservoir throughout Maseru to supply all gardens with water for irrigation purposes. A charge is made for the water and the scheme so far has proved a success.

GAOLS.

There are seven gaols and two lock-ups in Basutoland, and during the year under review 1,547 prisoners passed through them as compared with 1,717 during the year 1915–16.

CRIME AND POLICE.

The Police Force of the territory on the 31st March, 1917, consisted of sixteen European officers, seven European constables, three native officers and 484 native non-commissioned officers and men.

Of the European officers, five are away on War leave, and are serving in the Imperial Army in various parts.

The above figures include 191 native special police who are employed as border guards in the Quthing and Qacha's Nek districts as a precautionary measure against the introduction of East Coast Fever into the territory from East Griqualand and Natal. They are not uniformed, with the exception of an arm badge, but, like the regular force, are mounted. It has been found impossible to reduce the number during the year under review, but the outlook as regards East Coast Fever has grown no worse.

The number of convictions for liquor smuggling in 1916–17 was 238, as compared with 150 in 1915–16.

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

There was a slight increase in the total number of cases during the year. The people are becoming more accustomed to the higher fee charged, and we may look forward to a progressive increase in the

number from year to year. The following table shows the number of patients treated at the Government hospitals and dispensaries for the last two years:—

	In-patients.		*Out-patients.*
1915–16.	1,841	..	23,575
1916–17.	1,999	..	26,214

No epidemics of any moment have occurred. During the early part of the year there was an outbreak of plague in the Orange Free State, the nearest cases being about forty miles from our border, near enough to cause grave anxiety lest the disease should be introduced into Basutoland. The strictest possible precautions were taken to prevent this. The movement of natives between the two territories was restricted as far as possible, and a detention camp organised near the Maseru railway station in which all sick natives returning home were quarantined.

One really suspicious case of pneumonic plague occurred but a bacteriological analysis kindly carried out by the Union Health Authorities negatived the existence of the disease.

Enteric fever was less prevalent than in recent years and this improvement may be ascribed to the extensive use of anti-typhoid inoculation. The serum is obtained from the South African Institute of Medical Research, and out of some 5,400 inoculations there have been only two cases of severe reaction.

Bacillary dysentery was again very prevalent and a few cases of liver abscess were noted. There has been no apparent increase in the incidence of tuberculosis.

LEPER SETTLEMENT.

On the 1st April, 1916, there were 178 male and 167 female inmates. During the year, 72 new cases were admitted; 15 patients were discharged as possibly arrested cases; there were 60 deaths, 10 births, 47 desertions and 64 deserters returned to the settlement. On the 31st March, 1917, there were 181 male and 182 female inmates.

These figures as compared with last year show a decided improvement in the working of the asylum. Deserters are being returned more readily, yet there are still cases where certain chiefs are very lax. The behaviour of the inmates has undoubtedly improved and they are becoming more reconciled to the place.

The water supply is as it was last year, but it is hoped to improve the supply as soon as it is possible.

The want of a children's home is becoming very much felt as it is desirable to keep them separate from the adults.

Although shorthanded, through some of the members of the staff being on war leave, the good work of the staff continues and a much better feeling exists between them and the inmates. The returns show an increase over last year of new admissions, a very large falling off in desertions, an increase in "apparently arrested" cases discharged, and a considerable decrease in deaths.

GENERAL.

His Excellency the High Commissioner, accompanied by Viscountess Buxton and Staff paid an official visit to Basutoland during the month of August, 1916. They were met on arrival at Maseru by His Honour the Resident Commissioner, the senior officers of the Administration, and representatives of the European community of the territory. The Paramount Chief had called all the principal chiefs of the tribe with their people to meet Lord Buxton at Maseru in order to pay the respects of the nation to His Excellency on this, his first official visit to the country. Chiefs and people assembled at a pitso, where complimentary addresses were presented by the Paramount Chief on behalf of the tribe, to which His Excellency replied. It is estimated that 15,000 natives were present. In the afternoon His Excellency formally opened the eleventh session of the Basutoland Council.

The following day His Excellency had several interviews with the Paramount and other principal Chiefs, including the Chief Jonathan. Chief Jonathan was admonished for the disturbances which had occurred in the Leribe district, and His Excellency finally adjusted the compensation to be paid by him to his brother Joel, for losses caused the latter. The sum was fixed at £8,000, which was subsequently paid and handed to the people of Chief Joel who had suffered losses during the disturbances.

His Excellency and party left Maseru on the 24th August.

On the reassembling of the Council on the 25th August, and until its close, on the 2nd September, questions chiefly affecting the domestic affairs of the tribe were discussed.

As a result of a discussion in the Council on the question of the best manner in which to show the loyalty of the tribe to His Majesty's Government, it was decided to raise a fund by contributions from the people and to tender this as a gift from the Basuto nation to His Majesty for war purposes. A sum of £40,000 was raised and transmitted to the Secretary of State for the Colonies for transmission to the King. His Majesty was graciously pleased to accept the gift, and directed that the money be used to purchase twenty aeroplanes, half for the Royal Naval Air Service and half for the Royal Flying Corps. The Paramount Chief was asked to suggest names of chiefs and towns for inscriptions connecting the aeroplanes with Basutoland. A further sum amounting to some £10,000 is still in the hands of the Government and a further contribution is anticipated.

The recruitment of native labourers for work overseas was initiated by the Union Government and the Basuto were invited to volunteer. It was explained that they would be required for general labour behind the fighting lines in France. The response to the call was at first disappointing, as only about 250 were enlisted. Recruiting still continues, however, and I am glad to say that an improvement has recently become noticeable.

The effects of the great world war are but little felt in the territory, except in the difficulty in obtaining merchandise and the enhanced price of everything. The restrictions on export from the United Kingdom and the shortage of cargo space for such commodities as are obtainable, together with increased freight, insurance and possibly larger profits, on account of a smaller turnover, have had their effect on local prices, which have risen to an abnormal extent.

A large number of Europeans have left Basutoland to take part in the War. Of an estimated white population of 366 of military age in the territory, 160 have already joined, that is 44 per cent.

During the month of May certain administrative changes were made in the personnel of the Administration. Mr. Barry May, Deputy Resident Commissioner and Treasurer, was transferred to the Bechuanaland Protectorate as Deputy Resident Commissioner. Mr. Macgregor, an old Basutoland official, was re-transferred from Bechuanaland, where he held the appointment of Government Secretary, to Basutoland as Deputy Resident Commissioner. Mr. T. A. Williams was promoted from the post of Accountant to that of Financial Secretary. This appointment was rendered necessary by the transfer of Mr. Barry May.

CHAS. E. BOYES,

Government Secretary,

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
912	Barbados	1915–1916
913	Leeward Islands	,,
914	Uganda	,,
915	British Honduras	1915
916	Mauritius	,,
917	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
918	St. Lucia	1915–1916
919	Nyasaland	,,
920	Nigeria	1915
921	East Africa Protectorate	1915–1916
922	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	,,
923	Hong Kong	1916
924	Weihaiwei	,,
925	Zanzibar	,,
926	Fiji	,,
927	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
928	Cayman Islands	1915–1916
929	Seychelles	1916
930	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
931	Gibraltar	,,
932	Bahamas	1916–1917
933	St. Helena	1916
934	Ceylon	,,
935	Malta	1916–1917
936	Gambia	1916
937	British Guiana	,,
938	Falkland Islands	,,
939	Sierra Leone	,,
940	Straits Settlements	,,
941	Cyprus	1916–1917
942	Grenada	,,
943	Jamaica	,,
944	Somaliland	,,
945	Swaziland	,,
946	Nigeria	1916

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 997.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1917-18.

(For Report for 1916–17 see No. 947.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
June, 1919.

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No. 997.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1917–1918.*

FINANCIAL.

During the year ended the 31st March, 1918, the revenue collected in Basutoland amounted to £175,028, an excess of £4,778, over the estimate, and a decrease of £3,343 on the revenue collected in the year 1916–17.

Native tax yielded £104,144, an increase of £1,398 over 1916–17, and Customs, £46,239, a decrease of £5,152.

The amount received from the Union Government as Basutoland's share of Customs Duties under Article III of the Customs Agreement was £45,277. The balance of £962 represents duty collected in Basutoland on importations of spirits and beer manufactured in the Union.

The ordinary expenditure during the year ended 31st March, 1918, amounted to £163,233, a decrease of £1,168 on the preceding year's expenditure. Increased expenditure under many heads of service was caused by the enhanced cost of clothing and equipment and to meet this it was necessary to reduce the amount provided under the vote "Public Works Recurrent." Capital Expenditure amounted to £9,965, as compared with £7,036 in the previous year.

The financial result of the year was a surplus of revenue over expenditure of £1,830, after providing for capital expenditure.

The balance of Assets in excess of Liabilities on 31st March, 1918, amounted to £121,052 3*s.* 2*d.*

TRADE.

The following is a return of the exports from the Territory during the calendar year 1917, the figures for 1916 being also given for comparison :—

* A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914–15, No. 858 : [Cd. 7622–49].

(C564) Wt.1155. 1 000. 6.19. B.&F.Ltd. Gp. 11.

	1916.		1917.	
	No.	£.	No.	£.
Horses	662	7,469	330	3,456
Cattle	13,135	79,085	11,150	88,694
Sheep	—	—	1,374	979
	Muids.		Muids.	
Kaffir corn ..	76,300	46,397	21,443	5,535
Maize and maize meal ..	181,248	90,835	101,166	57,954
Wheat and wheat meal ..	70,503	99,302	67,792	105,552
	lbs.		lbs.	
Mohair	2,894,184	156,555	1,739,565	126,752
Wool	11,375,035	331,077	8,782,305	388,753
Hides	268,108	10,996	122,327	5,699
Skins	813,663	18,325	562,677	16,045
Miscellaneous ..	—	—	—	2,612
Total value of Exports ..	—	£840,041	—	£812,031
Total value of Imports ..	—	£666,979	—	£901,332

During the period under review, imports from oversea have been still further restricted, owing in part to shortage of shipping and in part to the large number of articles which have been added to the list of prohibited goods by the Imperial Government for war purposes. The result has been a still further advance in the price of practically all commodities required for daily use, not only in regard to food supplies and clothing, but in the many small things which in pre-War days were considered indispensable. Colonial manufacturers have doubtless done their best to supply the deficiency, but, being dependent to a large extent on the supply of raw material, they have advanced the prices, in many instances far above what used to be paid for imported foods. It is estimated that before the War, practically one-third of the Basutoland trade consisted of rugs, blankets, and shawls. The home price of the best English rugs then ranged from 1*s.* 9*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* per pound, in comparison with present prices amounting to at least four times as much; it is, therefore, not difficult to understand why the values of the merchandize imported have risen from £667,000 in 1916 to £901,000 in 1917. In last year's report the opinion was expressed that even the figures then quoted could not be maintained, but from the illustration above mentioned, to say nothing of the enormous increase in the prices of all cotton goods, agricultural implements, building material, and hardware of every description, it must be evident that the advance in the value of imports is not due to any increase in quantity, but to the extraordinary appreciation in oversea prices.

The value of merchandize imported is approximately the cost at the coast where the majority of traders purchase their goods from Union firms. It is regretted that no classification of the merchandize imported can be given.

From the above figures it would appear that the balance of trade was against the Territory, but it must not be forgotten that Basutoland

has a large asset in the supply of labour. It is quite impossible to estimate the amount of money brought into the country by labourers from the mines and elsewhere, but it is considerable and should place the balance far on the other side of the account.

With reference to the exports it will be observed that there is a decrease in the total value of £28,000 on the total value for 1916. Wool and mohair contribute about five-eighths of the total, but there has been a falling-off in weight of three and three quarter million pounds while the value has increased by nearly £28,000. This is unsatisfactory, but it is impossible to account for the short-fall, which may be due to overlapping of one year's clip with another, owing to difficulties in shipping transport.

There have also been appreciable decreases in the export of Kaffir corn and maize, due to unseasonable dry weather and the ravages of the borer grub.

A slight increase is shown in the values of cattle and wheat exported.

VETERINARY.

The past year has been a satisfactory one for the stock of Basutoland, and except for one outbreak of glanders and four outbreaks of anthrax (none of which assumed serious proportions) the Territory has been free from contagious diseases.

The East Coast Fever outlook continues to improve and the situation in East Griqualand and the Transkei has made satisfactory progress, but as long as there are centres of infection in these areas the illicit introduction of cattle into Basutoland must be guarded against.

Altogether, 757 doses of anthrax vaccine were used in the past year, in all cases with gratifying results.

Strangles has, as usual, been very prevalent and the streptococcus of strangles appears to be always prevalent in Basutoland.

All severe cases, when possible, have been vaccinated with dead streptococci, and this treatment if adopted in the early stages has been found to be of great benefit. Experience indicates that one should employ large doses, and the Principal Veterinary Surgeon now gives 500,000,000 organisms at one time and repeats the dose in three or four days' time if necessary.

Equine biliary fever has been more prevalent than last year, but all cases have been treated successfully, thanks to trypan blue.

The Territory has been remarkably free of quarter evil during the past year, only 606 doses of vaccine having been supplied.

During the year 140 blood slides have been examined by the Principal Veterinary Surgeon. These have been for the most part supplied from cattle on the border (where slides are taken from all animals that die) and all cases where anthrax is suspected.

It is regretted that no headway has been made in the dipping of scab-infected flocks, 124,754 sheep having been dipped during the year as against 133,144 last year. The reduction in the numbers dipped cannot be assigned to any reasonable reduction in sheep scab, and it is to be regretted that the natives do not take more advantage of the facilities given them by Government. During the year a new dipping tank was constructed in a large sheep area in the Qacha's Nek District.

During the past season 200 live foals were born in the Territory sired by Government stallions, and 23 by a Premium stallion, against 209 of last year.

The present season was a busy one and no less than 535 mares were covered by Government stallions and it is hoped a good percentage of foals will be produced.

The principal Veterinary Surgeon thinks that the experiment in mule-breeding is proving successful, and he has no doubt that when the natives find how valuable their mules are they will be very anxious to send more mares to the donkey.

At the commencement of the season the Government purchased the imported Highland pony Glenbanvie, bred by the Duke of Atholl. This pony is much admired by the natives and should the experiment prove successful then it might be sound to get more of this breed into the stud.

At our recent Shows it was gratifying to see good results from the Government sires, and given good seasons the sires we have are no doubt capable of greatly improving the much degenerated ponies in the Territory. The prospects for horse breeders producing good riding or remount cobs are exceedingly bright, as such articles are extremely scarce in the Union.

Agricultural Shows have been held at all the magisterial centres.

EDUCATION.

The average daily attendance of pupils in schools and institutions is now over 20,000, while the total number of pupils on the roll exceeds 27,000.

The total average attendance in schools and institutions during the year ending December 31, 1917, was 20,760, as compared with 17,167 and 19,496 in 1915 and 1916 respectively.

Since the year 1910 the average attendance has increased usually at the rate of 1,200 each year. A decrease was recorded in 1915, but this decrease was exceptional.

The following Grants were made to missions for Schools and Institutions :—

Paris Evangelical Missionary Society ..	£12,750
Church of England Mission	1,950
Roman Catholic Mission	2,100
	£16,800

The above amounts may appear large, but should be compared with the figures of average attendances given above. Nearly the whole amount is spent on salaries of native teachers varying from £8 to £34 per annum. No reduction is possible under this head as the salaries are extremely low in view of the present cost of living. Taking an average of 40 pupils per teacher, the grant, if spent entirely on elementary schools, would provide an average salary little above £30 per annum. But out of this grant boarding schools for higher education have to be maintained and these, even when managed with the closest attention to economy, are expensive.

Elementary Schools according to Size and Denomination.

Average Attendance December, 1917.

Missions.	Over 200	150 200	100 150	70 100	60 70	45 60	25 45	20 25	Under 20	Total.
Paris Evangelical Missionry. Society	2	9	31	48	33	34	54	15	10	236
Church of England	–	1	3	4	6	8	10	5	4	41
Roman Catholic..	1	5	7	4	–	5	2	2	4	30
	3	15	41	56	39	47	66	22	18	307

Enrolment of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Missions.	Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1916.			Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1917.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Missionry. Socty.	7,762	12,315	20,077	7,877	12,892	20,769
Church of England	1,137	1,876	3,013	1,067	1,837	2,904
Roman Catholic	69.	2,133	2,840	754	2,387	3,141
	9,596	16,334	25,930	9,698	17,116	26,814

Enrolment of Pupils in Institutions.

Institution.	Church or other controlling agency	No. of Pupils on Roll December, 1916.			No. of Pupils on Roll December, 1917.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Morija ..	Paris Evangelical Missionary Society	156	—	156	150	—	150
Thaba Morena	,,	—	60	60	—	63	63
Leloaleng	,,	24	—	24	24	—	24
Masite ..	Church of England	19	—	19	15	—	15
Maseru ..	,,	—	34	34	—	18	18
Roma ..	Roman Catholic .	133	249	382	150	258	408
		332	343	675	339	339	678

Average Attendance of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	Year ending December, 1916.			Year ending December, 1917.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Missionry. Socty.	5,851	8,790	14,641	6,207	9,312	15,519
Church of England..	822	1,335	2,157	833	1,329	2,162
Roman Catholic	502	1,602	2,104	585	1,840	2,425
	7,175	11,727	18,902	7,625	12,481	20,106

The above Tables show the enrolment and average attendance of pupils divided according to sex and according to the Missions to which they belong. Roughly two-thirds of the pupils are girls.

EUROPEAN SCHOOLS.

	No. of pupils on roll, December, 1917.
Maseru	44
Mafeteng	23
Morija	20
Leribe	13
Teyateyaneng	10
Mohales Hoek	11
	121

The above schools provide elementary education for children of European descent.

Two general tendencies of education in Basutoland are worthy of note:—

In the first place the Basuto parents are gradually abandoning their opinion that school education should begin at puberty. Many children are now being sent to school at the proper age for elementary education.

The second tendency is for the schools to become less mechanical. School subjects are not so often now presented by the teacher as mysteries which the pupils should memorize. In many schools pupils and teachers alike have a very definite idea of the worth of the subject taught and its relation to real life.

Another advance in the direction of giving reality to the school course has recently been made possible by the publications for school use of an extremely interesting "History of Basutoland" and a "History of South Africa," written in Sesuto, by the Rev. E. Jaccottet, and published by the Sesuto Book Depôt, Morija.

POST OFFICE.

The net postal, telegraph, and telephone revenue amounted to £5,614 13*s.* 6*d.*

The number and value of deposits and withdrawals in and from the post Office Savings Bank for the last two years are shown in the following table:—

	Deposits.	*Withdrawals.*
1916–17.	1,172 value £7,080.	382 value £5,073.
1917–18.	1,467 „ £9,347.	360 „ £6,645.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Improvements in the condition of the main roads continue to be made and some good permanent work has been done at certain necessary points. Several important deviations have been made which have considerably improved some very steep gradients. A considerable amount of work has been put into the more important of the numerous by-roads, which are kept in fair condition. A certain amount of money is also spent by the traders in making and repairing roads connecting the main and by-roads with some of the more distant trading stations.

GAOLS.

There are seven gaols and two lock-ups in the Territory and during the year under review 1,333 prisoners passed through them, as compared with 1,547 during the year 1916–17.

CRIME AND POLICE.

The Police Force of the Territory on the 31st March, 1917, consisted of 15 European officers, 7 European constables, three native officers and 467 native non-commissioned officers and men.

Of the above, six European officers and one European constable are away on war leave and are serving in the Imperial Army in various parts.

The above figures include 159 native special police who are employed as border guards in the Quthing and Qacha's Nek District as a precautionary measure against the introduction of East Coast Fever into Basutoland from East Griqualand and Natal. With the exception of an arm badge, they are not uniformed but, like the regular police force, are mounted.

The number of convictions for contravention of the liquor laws in 1917–18 was 141 as compared with 238 in 1916–17. Convictions for offences against property have increased to 178, as compared with 127 in the previous year.

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

Typhus fever which had been prevalent for more than a year in certain districts of the Cape Colony appeared in Basutoland in August, 1917. The early cases were nearly all among the Tembu of the

Quthing and Mohales Hoek Districts. Later, cases occurred in the Qacha's Nek district.

Energetic measures were at once taken to control the epidemic. Infected areas were strictly quarantined. Recruiting for mines and other purposes was prohibited in the southern districts and every means taken to discourage the movements of natives from one place to another. All infected huts were destroyed by fire, and clothing and other personal effects disinfected by boiling. The death rate was high, about 50 per cent., but this resulted in the people, who were thoroughly scared, co-operating actively with the authorities in enforcing quarantines. This would not have been the case had the disease been attended with a low mortality. From August 14th, when the first cases were noted, till December 31st, there were 215 cases with 100 deaths. No Europeans were affected.

In co-operation with the Orange Free State Health authorities, applicants for passes were medically inspected, and verminous people were refused passes.

There were no cases of small-pox.

Contrary to our usual experience a good many men suffering from malarial fever came under the notice of the Medical Officers. They were all imported cases, chiefly returned general service boys from German East Africa.

Syphilis is still very prevalent and a proposal is under consideration to inaugurate free treatment for this disease. The general difficulty in dealing with the problem of syphilis in a native territory is the indifference of the people. Most cases have a non-venereal origin (only 14 cases of chancre were seen during the year). The initial lesion is often overlooked. Mucous patches of the mouth follow, and the infection spreads from one member of a family to another, and whole villages may be rapidly infected.

In a great many instances the secondary symptoms subside without treatment, but not before the patient has passed infection on to many others.

Dysentery was again prevalent but much milder in type than in recent years.

Tuberculosis and leprosy remain at about the same level. Very few cases of pulmonary disease were noted in boys returning from the mines.

There were a few cases of meningitis, mostly tubercular in origin.

The general health of the community has been above the average, and with the exception of the limited outbreak of typhus referred to above, there has been a remarkable absence of epidemic disease.

There was a notable decrease in the incidence of enteric. Beyond digestive troubles there was no illness among the convicts.

The following table shows the number of patients treated at the Government Hospitals and Dispensaries for the last two years :—

	In-patients.	*Out-patients.*
1916–17.	1,999	26,214
1917–18.	1,997	32,347

LEPER SETTLEMENT.

On the 1st April, 1917, there were 181 male and 182 female inmates, or a total of 363 inmates.

During the year ended 31st March, 1918, 52 new cases were admitted 1 patient was discharged as a possibly arrested case; there were 29 deaths, 8 births, 43 deserters, and 41 deserters returned to the Settlement.

On the 31st day of March, 1918, there were 189 male and 194 female inmates, or a total of 383 inmates.

Still further improvement in the general health of the inmates may be recorded.

With the exception of desertions, there have been very few offences committed by the inmates. The behaviour remains good, the principal grievance being the length of time taken by the chiefs in settling their cases with the outside public.

A new reservoir is in course of construction, and will be a great benefit to the place when complete.

The mealie and kaffircorn crops this year have failed and it is not expected that more than a few bags will be harvested.

The work done by the Staff generally, though very trying, has been done without complaint, and the good feeling between the staff and inmates continues to exist.

GENERAL.

In the month of April, 1917, the twelfth session of the Basutoland Council was held at which it was decided that the Paramount Chief and Chiefs should endeavour to raise a Basutoland contingent of 2,000 men for the Overseas Native Labour Corps. Recruiting was started in May but the result was disappointing. It was then placed in the hands of district officers who were more successful. Their efforts brought the total of the contingent up to 1,400 men when the Army Council decided to discontinue further enlistment of South African natives.

Of the 160 Europeans mentioned in last year's report as having gone on active service some returned from East Africa. These, with the exception of a few who were medically unfit for further service, joined up for service overseas. They were accompanied by others who had succeeded in obtaining leave from their employers. An effort was also made to allow more Government officials to volunteer and seven were granted war leave and proceeded overseas.

Towards the end of the year under review certain changes were made in the personnel of the Administration. The Resident Commissioner, Mr. R. T. Coryndon, C.M.G., having been appointed to the Governorship of Uganda, Lieutenant-Colonel E. C. F. Garraway, C.M.G., Resident Commissioner of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, was appointed to succeed him as Resident Commissioner, Basutoland.

Mr. J. C. Macgregor, Deputy Resident Commissioner, was appointed Resident Commissioner, Bechuanaland Protectorate.

Mr. C. E. Boyes was promoted from the post of Government Secretary to that of Deputy Resident Commissioner; Mr. J. P. Murray, Assistant Commissioner of Mafeteng, was promoted to the post of Government Secretary, and Mr. J. H. Sims, Inspector Basutoland Mounted Police, was appointed to the post of Assistant Commissioner.

J. P. MURRAY,
Government Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title-page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year
964	Seychelles	1917
965	Weihaiwei	„
966	Fiji	„
967	Solomon Islands	1917–1918
968	Grenada	„
969	Turks and Caicos Islands	1917
970	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	„
971	Ceylon	„
972	Hong Kong	„
973	Zanzibar	„
974	St. Helena	„
975	Malta	1917–1918
976	British Guiana	1917
977	St. Vincent	1917–1918
978	Bahamas	„
979	Gambia	1917
980	Jamaica	1917–1918
981	Gibraltar	1917
982	Bermuda	„
983	Swaziland	1917–1918
984	Trinidad	1917
985	Mauritius	„
986	Cyprus	1917–1918
987	Bechuanaland Protectorate	„
988	East Africa Protectorate	1916–1917
989	Barbados	1917–1918
990	Sierra Leone	1917
991	Straits Settlements	„
992	Leeward Islands	1917–1918
993	Uganda	„
994	British Honduras	1917
995	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1917–1918
996	Nyasaland	„

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-Percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1016.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1918-19.

(For Report for 1917-18 see No. 997.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1919.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

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No. 1016.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1918–1919.*

FINANCIAL.

During the year ended the 31st March, 1919, the revenue for Basutoland amounted to £191,428, an excess on the previous year of £16,400.

Ordinary expenditure incurred during the year amounted to £174,628. In addition, the sum of £6,253 was expended from surplus balances on permanent work. The revenue for the year exceeded the total expenditure by £10,547.

Native tax yielded £106,124, an increase of £1,980 over 1917–18, and Customs, £59,707, an increase of £13,468.

The amount received from the Union Government as Basutoland's share of Customs Duties under Article II of the Customs Agreement was £58,462 19*s.* 8*d.* A further sum of £1,244 0*s.* 2*d.* under this head of revenue was collected in Basutoland in duty on importations of spirits and beer manufactured in the Union.

The total expenditure of £180,881 shows an increase of £7,683 on that of the previous year.

This increase was mainly due to the enhanced cost of clothing and equipment and also to the war allowance to Government employees authorised during the year.

The balance of Assets in excess of Liabilities on the 31st March, 1919, amounted to £131,599 10*s.* 9*d.* Of this amount £20,000 was invested in Treasury Bills, £72,500 on loan to the Swaziland Administration, and £11,000 on deposit with the Crown Agents.

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*A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914–15, No. 858: [Cd. 7622–49].

TRADE.

The following is a return of the exports from the Territory during the calendar year 1918, the figures for 1917 being also given for comparison :—

	1917.		1918.	
	No.	£.	No.	£.
Horses	330	3,456	518	5,913
Cattle	11,150	88,694	12,750	114,704
Sheep	1,374	979	651	594
	Muids.		Muids.	
Kaffir corn ..	21,443	15,535	4,165	3,984
Maize and maize meal	101,166	57,954	44,312	27,399
Wheat and wheat meal	67,792	105,552	127,107	199,169
*Oats and barley	—	—	1,256	515
*Beans and peas	—	—	6,186	7,142
	lbs.		lbs.	
Mohair	1,739,565	126,752	1,847,421	163,337
Wool	8,782,305	388,753	9,322,768	466,374
Hides	122,327	5,699	168,223	7,002
Skins	562,677	16,045	312,805	11,339
Miscellaneous ..	—	2,612	—	140
Total value of Exports ..	—	£812,031	—	£1,007,612
Total value of Imports ..	—	£901,332	—	£882,339

* Shown under Miscellaneous last year.

It will be seen by a study of the above figures that the total exports from the Territory during the twelve months ended 31st December, 1918, establishes a record, amounting to no less than £1,007,612, as compared with £812,031 in 1917, and £840,041 in 1916.

The total value of the imports during the same period was £882,339, showing a balance of trade in favour of the Territory of £125,273.

One of the most encouraging features in the export returns is the considerable increase in the quantity and value of wheat and wheat meal, totalling approximately £200,000, and being some £90,000 in excess of 1917. It is unfortunate, however, that the blight known as "smut" has again made its appearance, after the country has had a practical immunity from this fungus for the last six years; but as steps are now being taken to impress upon the people the necessity of dipping their seed before planting, it is hoped that the same beneficial results will follow as were so successful in 1915 and the following seasons.

The maize crop was one of the smallest recorded, owing to unseasonable rains and to the ravages of the Borer Worm, or Grub. There was, however, no actual scarcity of food, Kaffir corn being fairly plentiful; but the quantity of maize available for export was very small indeed.

Wool and mohair, together, account for £629,700, or nearly two-thirds of the total value of our exports. It should be observed, however, that the increased value is not due to the quantity produced, which is considerably below the figures of 1915–16, but to the extraordinary appreciation in the prices paid for these staples. It is questionable whether Basutoland under existing conditions can support a larger number of sheep and goats than it does at present.

(614) Wt.1/155. 1,000 & 90. 12.19. B.&F.Ltd. Gp.11.

The bad practice of shearing in the autumn, before our severe and inclement winters, as well as losses through other causes, take a heavy toll on the flocks. This is evidenced by the large number of skins exported.

The remaining articles exported do not call for comment, as they are about normal, but there is one exception, viz., beans and peas, which are beginning to show quite respectable figures, and deserve, and should receive, every encouragement.

Turning briefly to the question of imported merchandise it is to be regretted, in the interests of the consumer, that up to the present time prices show little or no reduction. In fact, some articles are even dearer than before the Armistice with Germany. Shortage of shipping and labour unrest and strikes in almost all countries, to which must be added the enormous demand for materials of every description in the large areas so lately devastated by war, are factors responsible for this state of affairs.

It should not be forgotten, however, that before prices can become easier in the overseas markets, prices of the raw materials must come down. For example, wool, which has been selling in South Africa at from 1*s.* to 2*s.* per pound (according to length and quality) may eventually have to be sold at pre-War values, or at less than half the above prices. The same remarks apply to mohair, maize, and indeed to almost every article in daily use. In short, if our agricultural and pastoral people have had to pay very high prices for their requirements they have, on the other hand, benefitted very considerably by the greatly increased values they have been paid for their products.

VETERINARY.

Except for the prevalence of anthrax the Territory has been very free from any serious outbreaks of contagious disease.

The most serious outbreak of anthrax occurred in the Peka District, and in view of the large outbreak that occurred there two years ago, this was easily understood.

Owing to the co-operation of the late Chief Mathealira, all contact cattle were inoculated, numbering 1,650, with excellent results, but in view of the past history of this locality, we must expect further outbreaks to occur in this area.

During the year 2,028 animals have been inoculated for anthrax.

The outlook of East Coast fever has improved and the Administration has been able to carry out extensive economies during the year by reducing the number of native guards. As long as there are centres of infection on our Eastern border it will be wise to protect the Territory.

During the year there have been several instances of natives bringing in stolen cattle from East Griqualand and also cases of cattle straying from this area, cases which go to indicate the importance of having the Eastern border supervised.

During the year 124 blood slides have been examined.

These slides have been taken for the most part from animals on the Eastern border as an East Coast fever precaution, or from suspected anthrax animals.

There have been no outbreaks of glanders and only one animal has been subjected to the mallein test.

Strangles has been, as usual, fairly prevalent but for the most part of a benign type. The use of large doses of dead streptococci has continued to be of great value in treating severe cases.

Biliary fever has been very prevalent, and all cases except one, which was in a moribund condition when treatment commenced, have yielded to treatment. Trypan blue has revolutionised the treatment of this disease.

The Territory has been remarkably free from quarter-evil this year and only 518 doses of vaccine have been issued.

During the year 6,270 head of cattle have been dipped and exported through Qachas Nek to East Griqualand. 2,949 of these were Basuto-owned cattle, and as most of these animals were purchased for beef this export must be of great advantage to native owners.

During the summer a disease simulating foot and mouth disease occurred amongst a number of cattle. The disease manifested itself by an acute necrosis of the buccal membrane and the tongue, often to such an extent as to prevent the unfortunate animal from eating, and in a few days this was followed by acute laminitis. This disease fortunately occurred only in isolated cases and it did not appear to be infectious, as one often saw a cow with the disease suckling a calf and the calf successfully resisting all attempts to infect it. There was some mortality from this disease and in all cases it was associated with great debility, the mouth lesions taking a long time to recover.

During the year an infectious vaginitis of cattle occurred producing a serious condition of sterility. This disease, so far as the Principal Veterinary Surgeon knows, is localised and it is hoped it will remain so, as a disease of this type widespread would cause a serious economic loss to the Territory.

Despite the fact that there has been no Supervisor of Dipping Tanks, it is gratifying to report that 174,424 sheep and goats have been dipped during the year—49,670 more than last year.

With the cessation of hostilities it is hoped before long to have a European Officer again supervising all the dipping tanks in the Territory.

STUD.

It was most unfortunate that at the outset of the stud season this year, and the most promising season yet seen in Basutoland, the influenza epidemic should suddenly invade Maseru and District causing the loss of six weeks of the best part of the season.

During the season 338 mares were covered by Government stallions, and 178 live foals were born, the result of the previous season's work. This result on the whole was somewhat disappointing.

The thoroughbred horse Cloverley, owing to senile decay (21 years old) was humanely destroyed.

During the year the thoroughbred horses "Gumshoe" and "St. Andrew" were purchased, and it is hoped they will prove a success in the country.

The mules produced by the Catalonian Jack are turning out well and should prove of considerable value to the Territory both for pack and draught purposes.

The introduction of the Highland pony, judging from the foals, is likely to prove successful, but it is a little early to form a definite opinion on this point.

Agricultural Shows were held at different centres during the year.

EDUCATION.

The average daily attendance of pupils in schools and institutions is now over 21,000, while the total number of pupils on the roll exceeds 28,000.

The total average attendance in schools and institutions during the year ending 31st December, 1918, was 21,160, as compared with 19,496 and 20,760 in 1916 and 1917 respectively.

It will be seen that the increase for 1918 was only 400. Owing to the influenza epidemic the schools were closed for the fourth quarter, which quarter generally shows a higher average attendance than the other quarters.

The following Grants were made to Missions for Schools and Institutions :—

Paris Evangelical Missionary Society ..	£13,300
Church of England Mission	2,000
Roman Catholic Mission	2,400
	£17,700

Elementary Schools according to Size and Denomination.

Missions.	Over 200	150 200	100 150	70 100	60 70	45 60	25 45	20 25	Under 20	Total.
Paris Evangelical Missionry Society	2	9	20	52	30	52	61	21	14	261
Church of England	–	–	5	5	4	7	17	4	9	51
Roman Catholic..	2	5	5	5	2	4	5	2	2	32
	4	14	30	62	36	63	83	27	25	344

From this table it will be seen that there are now 344 schools in the Territory receiving Government Grants; this is an increase of 37 schools in one year. Most of these new schools are situated in the mountainous part of the country.

It may be well to mention here that acting on the recommendation passed by the Board of Advice at its last meeting a system of registration for new schools has been adopted. According to this system a school is registered as soon as it is started. About 50 new schools have already been provisionally registered this year and these will be placed on the official list as soon as the necessary conditions as regards attendance, buildings, etc., are fulfilled.

Enrolment of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Missions.	Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1917.			Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1918.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Missionry. Socty.	7,877	12,892	20,769	8,356	13,369	21,725
Church of England	1,067	1,837	2,904	1,217	2,107	3,324
Roman Catholic	754	2,387	3,141	836	2,571	3,407
	9,698	17,116	26,814	10,409	18,047	28,456

This shows an increase of 1,642 pupils on the roll. The attendance has not been so good during the year, the increase in the average attendance being only 400. This may be due to epidemics or bad weather. In the mountains the attendance fluctuates very much according to the weather.

Enrolment of Pupils in Institutions.

Institution.	Mission.	No. of Pupils on Roll December, 1917.			No. of Pupils on Roll December, 1918.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Morija ..	Paris Evangelical Missionary Society	150	—	150	163	—	163
Thabana Morena	„	—	63	63	—	52	52
Leloaleng	„	24	—	24	23	—	23
Masite ..	Church of England	15	—	15	20	—	20
Maseru ..	„	—	18	18	—	26	26
Roma ..	Roman Catholic .	150	258	408	137	245	382
		339	339	678	343	323	666

Average Attendance of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	Year ending December, 1917.			Year ending December, 1918.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Missionry. Socty.	6,207	9,312	15,519	6,041	9,551	15,592
Church of England.	833	1,329	2,162	840	1,426	2,266
Roman Catholic	585	1,840	2,425	640	2,036	2,676
	7,625	12,481	20,106	7,521	13,013	20,534

The exact total, if decimal figures are reckoned, is 20,539 and the average attendance of pupils in Institutions is 621. This makes the total of 21,160 as stated above.

EUROPEAN SCHOOLS.

	No. of pupils on roll December, 1917.	March, 1919.
Maseru	44	43
Mafeteng	23	24
Morija	20	20
Leribe..	13	13
Teyateyaneng ..	10	15
Mohales Hoek ..	11	17
	121	132

THE INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC.

Owing to this epidemic all schools have been closed from the beginning of October to the end of January. Many head-teachers and assistants have died and it has been difficult for the Missions concerned to fill their places adequately. The school work has consequently suffered very considerably, although the numbers of pupils attending school do not as yet seem to have been retarded noticeably. Children of tender age do not seem to have been attacked fatally except where such could obtain no attention. The older boys and girls suffered more and many died. The chief mortality, however, occurred amongst the young men and women (married or single) from 20 to 40 years of age; hence the losses among the teachers. It may be interesting to note here the statistics given by the Paris Evangelical Missionary Society in the Leselinyana of June 13th, 1919, with regard to the losses caused by the epidemic amongst the Church members of this Society. Out of a roll of twenty-eight thousand three hundred and forty-seven, nine hundred and twenty-two died. This gives a percentage of three and a quarter ($3\frac{1}{4}$). This loss will, of course, be bound to affect the attendance of the schools in the future, so that it is possible that even with the large number of new schools, the average attendance may not increase in the same proportion.

POST OFFICE.

The net postal, telegraph, and telephone revenue amounted to £5,823 3*s.* 11*d.*

The number and value of deposits and withdrawals in and from the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years are shown in the following table:—

	Deposits.	*Withdrawals.*
1917–18	1,467 value £9,347	360 value £6,645
1918–19	1,691 „ £8,766	532 „ £6,193

The following comparative table shows the number and value of money and postal orders issued and paid during the last two years:—

	Issued.	*Paid.*
1917–18	32,810 value £34,767	22,961 value £30,098
1918–19	31,105 „ £33,206	21,450 „ £26,148

PUBLIC WORKS.

Maintenance of Roads. Improvements continue to be made in the main roads throughout the Territory. A good deal of permanent work in the way of heavy metalling, new culverts, and diversions to ease certain heavy grades has been put in during the year.

The byroads have been improved, but it is not possible to keep them up to the standard necessary for easy transport.

GAOLS.

There are seven gaols and two lock-ups in the Territory, and during the year 1,184 prisoners passed through them as compared with 1,333 during the year 1917–1918.

CRIME AND POLICE.

The Police Force of the Territory on 31st March, 1919, consisted of 15 European officers, 7 European constables, 3 native officers and 459 non-commissioned officers and men.

Of the above, six European officers and one European constable are still away on war leave, but are expected to return to duty at an early date.

The above figures include 152 native special police who are employed as border guards in the Quthing and Qachas Nek Districts as a precautionary measure against the introduction of East Coast fever into Basutoland from East Griqualand and Natal. These police are mounted, but with the exception of an arm badge are not uniformed. It is intended to effect a large reduction in their numbers in the coming year.

The number of convictions for contravention of the liquor laws in 1918–1919 was 146, as compared with 141 in 1917–1918.

Convictions for offences against property have decreased to 169, as compared with 178 for the previous year.

MEDICAL.

Typhus fever, which had been prevalent in the Quthing and Qachas Nek Districts from August to December, 1917, had been entirely stamped out by May 11th, 1918. During this period there were 241 people affected, with 111 deaths. No further cases occurred during the year.

The so-called "Spanish Influenza" epidemic was rife in this Territory during the months of October and November. In the absence of any registration of births and deaths, no accurate statistics in regard to mortality from the disease are available. Apart from the direct observation of the Medical Staff, information obtained by the District officials, from the native chiefs and from local statistics supplied by missionaries and traders, goes to show that the deaths in the Territory may be safely estimated at 15,000. Probably 75 per cent. of the total population was affected.

Apart from the above epidemics, the general health of the population, including that of the police and convicts, has been good.

There has once again been a notable decrease in the incidence of enteric fever.

Dispensary and Hospital work has been maintained at a high standard, in spite of the absence of some of the staff on war leave. The number of patients treated was as follows:—

In-patients, 1,984. Out-patients—new cases—23,078. Subsequent attendances, 9,191.

LEPER SETTLEMENT.

During the year ended 31st March, 1919, 62 new cases were admitted; 4 patients were discharged as possibly arrested cases. There were 72 deaths, 9 births, 64 deserters, and 44 returned deserters.

On the 31st March, 1919, there were 168 male and 181 female inmates, or a total of 349, while on the 1st April, 1918, there were 189 male and 194 female inmates, or a total of 383 inmates.

The high death-rate for the year under review was due to the Spanish influenza epidemic, which also caused the greater number of the desertions. The staff had a very trying time during the influenza epidemic, but worked well and without complaint. With the exception of four men, the whole of the native staff was incapacitated. The situation during the epidemic was explained to the inmates of the Settlement and they were placed on their honour to see that the regulations were carried out. It is pleasant to be able to record that, apart from desertions, the patients gave no trouble whatever during this anxious time. They even put themselves out to assist in every way.

During the year, with the exception of desertions, there have been very few offences committed by the inmates.

The new reservoir mentioned in the Annual Report for 1917–1918 has now been completed, but as the work was not finally finished until the close of the rainy season it has not yet proved of much use.

GENERAL.

The thirteenth session of the Basutoland Council was opened on 31st August, 1918, and closed on September 17th, 1918. The following are the principal subjects discussed:—

(1) Hut tax. Methods for the better collection of;

(2) Buying and selling of grain by traders. Question whether it should be made compulsory to buy and sell by weight;

(3) Lepers. Question of facilitating the settlement of complaints of lepers which crop up from time to time in respect to their families living away from the Settlement under tribal conditions;

(4) Suppression of native beer-shops. By an overwhelming majority the Council decided in favour of suppression, and good headway has been made in this direction.

The news of the Armistice with Germany was received with general rejoicing throughout the Territory. Pitsos were held by the Government officers in all the Districts and the terms of the Armistice explained and the nature of the victory attained was emphasised.

The Spanish influenza scourge is dealt with under the head "Medical." It is regretted that the mortality from the disease was heavy, both amongst the European and native inhabitants of the Territory.

The following principal chiefs died during the year —

1, Leshoboro Majara; 2, Joseph Molapo; 3, Ts'epo Nkoebe; 4, Mathealira Molapo; 5, Joel Molapo.

The last-named chief was the brother of Jonathan, the most important chief in northern Basutoland, and between these brothers there had been a lifelong feud which had been a source of anxiety to the Government. It was the cause of frequent inter-tribal fighting. With Joel's death, there is strong reason to hope that the family feud will come to an end and that there will consequently be peace in the districts previously affected.

J. P. MURRAY,
Government Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
985	Mauritius	1917
986	Cyprus	1917–1918
987	Bechuanaland Protectorate	,,
988	East Africa Protectorate	1916–1917
989	Barbados	1917–1918
990	Sierra Leone	1917
991	Straits Settlements	,,
992	Leeward Islands	1917–1918
993	Uganda	,,
994	British Honduras	1917
995	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1917–1918
996	Nyasaland	,,
997	Basutoland	,,
998	Gold Coast	1917
999	Weihaiwei	1918
1000	Zanzibar	,,
1001	Hong Kong	,,
1002	Somaliland	1917–1918
1003	Cayman Islands	,,
1004	Malta	1918–1919
1005	Seychelles	1918
1006	Fiji	,,
1007	Ceylon	,,
100	Nigeria	1917
1009	Turks and Caicos Islands	1918
1010	St. Helena	,,
1011	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
1012	Ashanti	,,
1013	East Africa Protectorate	1917–1918
1014	British Guiana	1918
1015	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1918–1919

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-Percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1045.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1919-20.

(For Report for 1918–19 see No. 1016.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1920.

LONDON:
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No. 1045.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1919–1920.*

FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year ended 31st March, 1920, amounted to £199,885, an increase of £8,459 on the preceding year's revenue.

Native tax yielded £107,291, an increase of £1,168 on the preceding year, and Customs £63,281, an increase of £3,574.

The sum received from the Union Government as Basutoland's share of Customs Duties under Article III of the Customs Agreement amounted to £61,662 5*s.* 4*d.*; a further sum of £1,620 8*s.* 1*d.* was collected in Basutoland in respect of excise on imports of spirits and beer manufactured in the Union.

The ordinary expenditure incurred during the year amounted to £192,861. In addition the sum of £9,580 was expended from accumulated balances on permanent work. The total expenditure for the year exceeded the revenue by £2,556.

Compared with the preceding year ordinary expenditure shows an increase of £18,191, for which the increased cost of clothing, rations, etc., is mainly responsible.

The balance of Assets in excess of Liabilities on the 31st March, 1920, amounted to £128,999 13*s.* 4*d.*; of this sum £72,500 was on loan to the Swaziland Administration, £20,000 invested in Treasury Bills, and £8,000 on deposit with the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

TRADE.

The following is a return of the exports from the Territory during the calendar year 1919, the figures for 1918 being also given for comparison :—

	1918.		1919.	
	No.	£	No.	£
Horses, mules, etc.	518	5,913	207	2,687
Cattle	12,750	114,704	11,636	98,965
Sheep and goats..	651	594	240	291
	Muids.		Muids.	
Kaffir corn ..	4,165	3,984	32,333	32,843
Maize and maize meal	44,312	27,399	52,134	44,911
Wheat and wheat meal	127,107	199,169	256,154	357,278
Oats, barley and rye	1,256	515	3,477	1,794
Beans and peas..	6,186	7,142	7,275	7,779
	lbs.		lbs.	
Hair, Angora ..	1,847,421	163,337	2,245,749	213,039
Wool	9,322,768	466,374	10,083,556	593,742
Hides	168,223	7,002	196,251	11,684
Skins, sheep ..	312,805	11,339	384,778	14,354
Miscellaneous ..	—	140	—	752
Total value of Exports ..	—	£1,007,612	—	£1,380,119

* A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914–15, No. 858: [Cd. 7622–49].

IMPORTS FOR 1918–1919.

	1918.		1919.	
	No.	£	No.	£
Merchandise, general, from all sources	—	—	—	1,069,393
Live Stock—				
Horses, mules, etc.	—	—	637	6,025
Cattle	—	—	2,032	12,045
Sheep and goats ..	—	—	1,096	1,039
Grain—				
Wheat and wheat meal	—	—	Maids. 2,013	4,351
Maize and maize meal	—	—	25,424	26,004
Kaffir corn ..	—	—	11,282	11,635
Other produce ..	—	—	—	6,545
	—	*£882,339	—	£1,137,037

*No classification.

The Trade returns for the calendar year 1919 are more than usually interesting, showing record figures in regard to both imports and exports. The former amount to £1,137,037, of which £1,069,393 represents general merchandise, while the grand total indicates an increase over the year 1918 of £254,698.

Exports amount to £1,380,119, an increase of £372,507 as compared with the year 1918; the principal items which contribute to this sum being :—Wool £593,742, wheat £357,278, and mohair £213,039, these three articles totalling £1,164,059, leaving only £216,060 for all the other exports.

It is encouraging to note that wool has increased in weight by 760,788 lbs., and in value by £127,368. Mohair in like manner by 398,328 lbs. in weight and £49,702 in value.

Wheat, as in 1918, shows another substantial advance in quantity as well as in value, the increase being 129,047 bags, and £158,109 respectively. As few complaints have been heard about smut it is to be presumed that dipping the seed before sowing has had the desired effect, and it is to be hoped that this simple preventive will be continued every season.

Maize is disappointing. Exports amounted to only 52,134 bags; but as 25,424 bags were reimported for food in certain districts, the actual surplus was only some 27,000 bags. The spring rains coming late and frost occurring early in some areas will easily account for the serious falling-off in the maize production.

Kaffir corn exported amounted to 32,333 bags, showing an increase of 28,168 bags over 1918, but as some 11,282 bags were reimported owing to scarcity, chiefly in the Southern and Qacha's Nek districts, the available surplus was not as large as would appear at first sight.

Referring back for a moment to that most important of all cereals—wheat—the figures and comparisons recorded above absolutely disprove the theory which is sometimes propounded that the wheat lands in Basutoland are "worked out." The quantity harvested in 1919 was far and away the largest on record, proving beyond question that, given seasonable rains, this land will, and can, give generous returns.

(711) Wt 32596/354. 1,250 & 90. 11.20. B.&F.Ltd. G.11/14.

Then as regards wool, the opinion was expressed in last year's report that it was questionable whether the country could continue to support such a large number of sheep and goats. The increased production during the period now under review does not appear to confirm this opinion, there having been an increase—taking wool and mohair together—of 1,159,116 lbs. At the same time the practice of shearing in the autumn is not only cruel, but wasteful, and it is to be hoped that with increased facilities for dipping, this reprehensible practice will eventually be reduced to a minimum.

Live stock shows a falling-off in value of about £20,000. Oats and barley an increase of about £1,200.

Beans and peas—a slight advance, but not to the extent one might have wished.

Hides and skins together, have increased in weight by nearly 100,000 lbs., which may or may not be advantageous, according to the point of view. The increase in value is nearly £8,000.

Taking the returns as a whole, the position is most satisfactory, showing, as it does, a balance of trade in favour of the Territory of £243,000. This sum does not, however, include the very considerable amount annually coming into the country from the mines, as well as from agricultural and domestic labour, of which unfortunately there appear to be no available statistics.

Merchandise.—It is greatly to be regretted that prices generally, and of the actual necessities of life in particular, show no inclination to come down to a lower level. Of course there is a section of the native population, more especially the flock-owners and agriculturists, who have received extreme prices for their produce, and have no cause to complain, as they cannot expect to "have it both ways"; but there is a much larger section of both Europeans and natives who can ill afford to pay the present high prices. Basutoland has no control of any of the world's markets in regard to either raw material, manufacture, freights, railway rates, or labour, and is obliged to pay the price demanded for all its requirements.

EDUCATION.

The average daily attendance of pupils in schools and institutions is now over 22,500, while the total number of pupils on the roll exceeds 30,000.

The total average attendance in schools and institutions during the year ended 31st December, 1919, was 22,556, as compared with 20,760 and 21,160 in 1917 and 1918 respectively.

The following grants were made to Missions for Schools and Institutions :—

Paris Evangelical Missionary Society ..	£14,430
Church of England Mission	2,122
Roman Catholic Mission	2,758
	£19,310

Elementary Schools according to Size and Denomination.

Missions.	Over 200	150 200	100 150	70 100	60 70	45 60	25 45	20 25	Under 20	Total
Paris Evangelical Missionry.Society	1	8	27	48	23	47	84	16	23	277
Church of England	–	2	1	4	7	8	19	6	8	55
Roman Catholic..	2	3	9	5	3	10	15	8	3	58
	3	13	37	57	33	65	118	30	34	390

From this table it will be seen that there are now 390 schools receiving grants, being an increase of 46 on last year's total. Most of the new schools are situated in the mountainous parts of the country.

Enrolment of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

	Number of Pupils on Roll, September, 1918.			Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1919.		
Missions.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Missionry.Socty.	8,536	13,369	21,725	7,841	14,376	22,217
Church of England	1,217	2,107	3,324	1,194	2,292	3,486
Roman Catholic	836	2,571	3,407	1,047	3,472	4,519
	10,409	18,047	28,456	10,082	20,140	30,222

Enrolment of Pupils in Institutions.

Institution.	Mission.	No. of Pupils on Roll September, 1918.			No. of Pupils on Roll December, 1919.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Morija ..	Paris Evangelical Missionary Society	163	—	163	174	—	174
Thabana Morena	,,	—	52	52	—	84	84
Leloaleng	,,	23	—	23	19	—	19
Masite ..	Church of England	20	—	20	20	—	20
Maseru ..	,,	—	26	26	—	28	28
Roma ..	Roman Catholic .	137	245	382	132	256	388
		343	323	666	345	368	713

Average Attendance of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	Year ending September, 1918.			Year ending December, 1919.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Missionry. Socty.	6,041	9,551	15,592	5,787	10,124	15,911
Church of England.	840	1,426	2,266	860	1,638	2,498
Roman Catholic	640	2,036	2,676	805	2,661	3,466
	7,521	13,013	20,534	7,452	14,423	21,875

EUROPEAN SCHOOLS.

No. of Pupils on Roll December, 1919.

Maseru	45
Mafeteng	25
Morija	14
Leribe	11
Teyateyaneng	13
Mohale's Hoek	12
Quthing	13
	133

VETERINARY.

Anthrax has been fairly prevalent, as anticipated, the worst outbreaks occurring in the Peka district. Altogether 3,713 animals have been inoculated with anthrax vaccin. Similar difficulties have been experienced in getting the proper prophylactic measures carried out as in the past, and until these are more intelligently developed further outbreaks of the disease must be expected.

The *East Coast Fever* outlook has improved very considerably on our East Griqualand border and it is hoped in the near future to carry out further economies in dealing with this disease.

Strangles has been prevalent but fortunately for the most part of a mild form; 72 animals were inoculated with curative vaccin.

Biliary Fever was unusually prevalent in the early summer months, the disease showing itself in a very acute form. Forty-two animals were successfully inoculated for this disease.

It has been a particularly good season for quarter-evil and only 374 doses of vaccin have been issued. 223 slides have been microscopically examined in dealing with East Coast fever and anthrax.

During the year, 8,019 cattle were dipped and exported via Qacha's Nek, and of these 3,561 were Basuto-owned cattle sold for slaughter.

Sheep Scab has been very prevalent, coinciding with the adverse droughty conditions that prevailed during the spring and early summer.

Statistics show that 211,196 sheep and goats were dipped during the year, an increase of 36,772 on the previous year.

Agricultural Shows were held at Qacha's Nek, Maseru, and Mafeteng only. Drought conditions prohibited shows being held at other centres.

The show held at Maseru was a good one, and there was a very gratifying exhibition of young stock by Government stallions.

During the year, 5,518 professional visits and attendances were made by the Principal Veterinary Surgeon, thereby indicating that the year has been a busy one for him and the veterinary staff.

Stud. The last stud season has been one of the worst on record owing to an exceedingly droughty spring and early summer, resulting in many of the native mares remaining in poor condition until the season was nearly over.

During the year, 126 foals were born from 312 mares covered the previous season. Stallions stood at all the centres except Mohale's Hoek and Qacha's Nek.

POST OFFICE.

The net postal, telegraph, and telephone revenue amounted to £6,676 12*s.* 2*d.*, as compared with £5,823 3*s.* 11*d.* for the year 1918-1919.

The expenditure amounted to £7,975 17*s.* 1*d.*, as compared with £6,984 1*s.* 4*d.* for the year 1918–1919.

The number and value of deposits and withdrawals in and from the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years are shown in the following table :—

	Deposits.	*Withdrawals.*
1918–19	1,691 value £8,766	532 value £6,193
1919–20	1,696 ,, 10,843	592 ,, £9,281

The following comparative table shows the number and value of money and postal orders issued and paid during the last two years :—

	Issued.	*Paid.*
1918–19	31,105 value £33,206	21,450 value £26,148
1919–20	32,505 ,, £38,310	28,724 ,, £38,498

During the year, the Post Office at Qacha's Nek was raised to the status of a full Money Order, Savings Bank and Telegraph Office, and Postal Agencies were opened at Sethlabathebe and Mokhotlong.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The erection of a Nurses' Home attached to the Maseru Hospital and of a small building for the European School at Mohale's Hoek was completed during the year. A large room was added on to the European School at Maseru, and a stone house was built for the Government Storekeeper at Maseru by the local native Industrial School. Apart from these buildings no public work of a special character was undertaken.

GAOLS.

There are seven gaols and four lock-ups in the Territory, and during the year, 1,525 prisoners passed through them, as compared with 1,184 during the year 1918–19.

CRIME AND POLICE.

The Police Force of the Territory on March 31st, 1920, consisted of 13 European officers, 1 chief constable, 7 European constables, 3 native officers and 291 non-commissioned officers and men.

In addition there are 64 native special police who are employed as border guards in the Quthing and Qacha's Nek Districts as a precautionary measure against the introduction of East Coast fever into Basutoland from East Griqualand and Natal. These police are mounted, but with the exception of an arm badge are not uniformed. Last year the special police numbered 152, and the large reduction has been rendered possible by the less dangerous position obtaining in respect to East Coast fever. Should conditions continue to improve, it is probable that a further large reduction will be effected next year.

The number of convictions for contravention of the liquor laws in 1919–20 was 151, as compared with 146 for the previous year.

Convictions for offences against property numbered 171, as compared with 169 in 1918–19.

MEDICAL.

Typhus Fever. The anticipated recrudescence of this disease occurred early in January, 1919, in the same neighbourhood that the disease first appeared in 1918, viz., the Quthing District along the Orange River. There were no cases in the Qacha's Nek District. The epidemic was of a much milder type. There were 243 cases with only 50 deaths, compared with 241 cases and 111 deaths in 1918.

The mildness of the epidemic renders it more difficult to deal with, as it is often weeks before outbreaks are reported, generally in some remote mountain village. In spite of vigorous efforts made to stamp out the disease, it is feared that it will be found endemic in the Quthing District as it has become in some of the native territories of the Union.

It is still the Tembu who are the chief sufferers, due, as has been explained before, to the dirty habits and surroundings of this clan, as opposed to the Basuto, who are naturally a clean race.

Tuberculosis is neither increasing nor decreasing, the number of cases being about the same from year to year.

Syphilis. This is becoming an increasingly serious problem and danger to the nation. 4,216 cases were treated, but these must form but a small percentage of the total number of cases in the Territory. The type of disease is altering slightly. Formerly primary sores were but seldom observed, now they are common, and present the usual classical symptoms.

Leprosy. There are still a good number of lepers at large.

Influenza. There was no recrudescence of the severe type of influenza which devastated the country in 1918, but a fair number of cases of the usual mild form of the disease were observed. This type may be regarded as endemic.

Enteric Fever. There were only 87 cases recorded, and from information received there were very few cases anywhere in the Territory. A dry summer and autumn is always followed by a low incidence of enteric. Where it had been possible to provide preventive inoculation, as on the Government reserve, cases were practically unknown.

Dysentery. This was unusually prevalent, mostly of the bacillary type, though a few cases of amoebic dysentery were observed.

Small-pox. There were no cases, but chicken-pox was prevalent in some areas.

Dispensary and Hospital work. 41,178 patients were treated during the year, viz. :—

In-patients, 1,943. Out patients—new cases, 29,071, subsequent attendances, 10,164.

LEPER SETTLEMENT.

During the year ended 31st March, 1920, there were 62 new cases admitted, 42 deaths, 17 births, 26 deserters, and 54 returned deserters. On the 31st March, 1920, there were 193 male and 204 female inmates, a total of 397, as compared with 168 male and 181 female inmates (total 349) on April 1st, 1919.

From the above it will be seen that there have been very few deaths and desertions as compared with previous years.

With the assistance of the Paramount Chief, some of the old leper complaints have been successfully settled.

The water question is very trying during certain periods of the year. Even with the additional reservoir mentioned in last year's report it has been found impossible to keep up the required supply.

GENERAL.

His Excellency, the High Commissioner, paid an official visit to the Territory on May 23rd and 24th, 1919. His Excellency, who was accompanied by Viscountess Buxton and staff, held a national "pitso" (or meeting) of the Basuto, at which the Paramount Chief, all the principal chiefs, and some thousands of natives attended. His Excellency delivered an important address to the assembled natives which was afterwards printed in English and Sesuto and circulated throughout the Territory. The visit was the second one which His Excellency had paid, and, though brief, gave much satisfaction to Europeans and natives alike.

The Fourteenth Session of the Basutoland Council was held from May 12th to May 30th, 1919. The following are the principal subjects which were discussed :—

(1) Illicit introduction and sale of brandy. The majority of the Council favoured severe punishment for infringements of the law.

(2) Native Tax. Methods for the better collection of ;

(3) New native laws.

(4) Sale of grain by weight. Legislation has been introduced.

(5) Native beer. Prohibition of sale of ;
(6) Union Pass Laws.
(7) Visit of Paramount Chief to England.
(8) Proclamation of March 12th as a public holiday, to commemorate the day on which the late Chief Moshesh placed himself and his nation under the protection of Her late Majesty, Queen Victoria. A Proclamation has been issued, and the day is now to be known as "Moshoeshoe's Day."

The Paramount Chief and twelve other Chiefs, accompanied by a Roman Catholic priest, with two interpreters, left for England at the end of September. The party was in charge of Mr. F. L. Foord, Assistant Commissioner at Maseru, and was preceded by the Resident Commissioner, Lieutenant-Colonel E. C. F. Garraway, C.M.G. The Chiefs were graciously received by His Majesty the King at Buckingham Palace on November 7th, and during the audience the Paramount Chief presented addresses of loyalty and congratulation from himself and the Basutoland Council. The reply which His Majesty was pleased to give was subsequently illuminated on vellum and framed and presented to the Paramount Chief. The Chiefs also had an interview with the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and apart from these official functions had a very comprehensive and interesting programme prepared for them. Among other places they visited Manchester, Bradford, Sheffield, and Birmingham, and were given flights in aeroplanes. The party left England on their return journey on November 14th.

One notable feature of the visit was that it was the first occasion on which a Paramount Chief of Basutoland had visited England. It is hoped that the visit will have had an improving effect on the minds of the chiefs and enable them more thoroughly to understand and appreciate the responsibilities entrusted to them.

The Resident Commissioner was present at the audience which the Chiefs had with the King and at the interview with Lord Milner. Thereafter, Colonel Garraway proceeded on leave of absence, and did not return to Basutoland until after the close of the year under review. During his absence Mr. C. Boyes, C.B.E., acted as Resident Commissioner, and Mr. T. P. Kennan as Deputy Resident Commissioner.

The following figures give the number of passes issued to natives to leave the Territory during the year :—

Labour, 45,740. Visiting and Miscellaneous, 70,673. Total, 116,413.

J. P. MURRAY,
Government Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
1011	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1918
1012	Ashanti	"
1013	East Africa Protectorate	1917–1918
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1017	Falkland Islands	1918
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1021	Somaliland	1918–1919
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1041	Nyasaland	1918–1919
1042	Turks and Caicos Islands	1919
1043	Grenada	"
1044	Bermuda	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

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No. 1085.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1920-21.

(For Report for 1919-20 see No. 1045.)

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No. 1085.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1920–1921.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year ended 31st March, 1921, amounted to £226,323, an increase of £26,438 on the preceding year's revenue. The increase was mainly accounted for by customs receipts, which showed an excess of £23,572 on the preceding year's figures.

The ordinary expenditure incurred during the year amounted to £241,530. From accumulated surplus balances a further sum of £11,423 was expended on works of a permanent nature. The total expenditure amounted to £252,953 and exceeded the revenue by £26,630.

Compared with the preceding year the ordinary expenditure shows an increase of £48,669. The additional war allowance authorised to officials of this Administration during the year and the enhanced cost of uniforms and equipment, drugs, rations, etc., are responsible for the increased expenditure.

The following figures denote the total revenue and expenditure during the past three years :—

Revenue.

1918–19.		1919–20.		1920–21.
£191,426	..	£199,886	..	£226,323

Expenditure.

£180,923	..	£202,441	..	£252,953

The balance of assets in excess of liabilities on 31st March, 1921, amounted to £102,370 3s. 1d., of which sum £72,500 was on loan to the Swaziland Administration.

TRADE.

The following is a return of the exports and imports from and into the Territory during the calendar year 1920, the figures for 1919 being also given

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Imports.

	1919.		1920.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£		£
Merchandize	—	1,069,393	—	1,091,840
Livestock :—				
Horses, Mules, etc... ..	637	6,025	476	3,608
Cattle	2,032	12,045	447	2,429
Sheep and Goats	1,096	1,039	190	174
Grain :—	Muids.		Muids.	
Wheat and Wheat-meal ..	2,013	4,351	1,624	4,996
Maize and Maize-meal ..	25,424	26,004	41,526	54,445
Kaffir Corn	11,282	11,635	15,339	23,089
Other Produce	—	6,545	—	406
	—	1,137,037	—	1,180,987
Government Imports.. ..	—	*	—	38,401
TOTAL IMPORTS ..	—	1,137,037	—	1,219,388

* No figures for 1919.

Exports.

	1919.		1920.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£		£
Horses, Mules, etc. ..	207	2,687	270	2,784
Cattle	11,636	98,965	12,290	106,284
Sheep and Goats ..	240	291	2,155	2,622
	Muids.		Muids.	
Kaffir Corn	32,333	32,843	19,119	26,553
Maize and Maize-meal	52,134	44,911	28,754	21.352
Wheat and Wheat-meal	256,154	357,278	88,695	218,386
Oats, Barley and Rye ..	3,477	1,794	110	108
Beans and Peas ..	7,275	7,779	3,098	4,763
	Lbs.		Lbs.	
Hair, Angora	2,245,749	213,039	2,259,741	112,358
Wool	10,083,556	593,742	10,030,954	418,785
Hides	196,251	11,684	210,960	9,690
Skins, Sheep	384,778	14,354	375,489	11,903
Miscellaneous	—	752	—	1,450
Total Value of Exports	—	1,380,119	—	937,038

It could hardly have been expected that the trade returns for the year ending 31st December, 1920, would reach the figures of the preceding year, and it is not encouraging to find that the balance of trade against the territory, for the period now under

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review, amounted to no less than £282,350, as compared with a balance in favour of the territory for 1919 of £243,000.

Only two reasons can be suggested in explanation of this unfortunate reverse in the financial position. First, the heavy decline in the value of our exports, amounting to £443,081, the chief items contributing to the shortfall being :—

Wheat.—£138,892, showing a decrease in quantity of 65 per cent., and in value of 38·8 per cent.

Angora Hair.—£100,681, with an increase in weight of ·6 per cent., but a decrease in value of 47·2 per cent ; and

Wool.—£174,957, with only a decrease in weight of ·5 per cent., but a falling off in value of 29·4 per cent.

It may be as well to state here that the reason why Angora hair shows such a much heavier percentage of loss than wool is because sheep are shorn twice a year, and probably the autumn clip was disposed of before the drop in price ; whereas goats are shorn only once a year, in the spring, and the bulk of the clip had to bear the full effect of the fall in value.

The remaining articles exported do not appear to call for special comment, being slightly more or less in value as compared with the previous year ; but it may be asked why such articles of native food as Kaffir corn and maize were exported to the value of £48,000, when it was necessary to import food of the same nature to the value of £78,000. The answer is that transport from one district to another is not only costly, but generally unprocurable when most required, and it follows that it would cost more to convey grain from the northern districts, where the crops are usually more abundant than in the south, than to bring in their requirements from farmers in the Union of South Africa living on the southern boundary.

The second reason for the reverse in the financial position will probably be found in the fact that imports, instead of decreasing, more than two years after the war in Europe had ceased, actually exceeded the figures for 1919 by over £72,000.

Labour.—It has never been possible to get a correct estimate of the value of the native labour asset, but it must not be forgotten that, owing to the closing down of the diamond mines, a very considerable number of native labourers have returned to their homes, so that a large amount of money which formerly came into the country from that source will be lost for the time being, thereby further reducing the purchasing power of the population.

The prospect for the immediate future is, therefore, taking all the above facts into consideration, by no means encouraging, and it would be foolish to look for any improvement in trade prospects for some considerable time. It must not be forgotten, however, that South Africa in general, and Basutoland in par-

ticular, have always shown extraordinary powers of recuperation. The country has passed through many previous depressions, and, with patience and courage, will recover from its present difficulties.

EDUCATION.

The average daily attendance of pupils in schools and institutions is now over 23,400, while the total number of pupils on the roll exceeds 32,500.

The total average attendance in schools and institutions during 1920 was 23,479, as compared with 21,160 and 22,556 in 1918 and 1919 respectively.

The following grants were made to Missions for schools and other educational institutions :—

	£
Paris Evangelical Mission Society ..	14,369
Church of England Mission	2,339
Roman Catholic Mission	3,524
	£20,232

This total compares with £19,310 for 1919.

Elementary Schools according to Size and Denomination.

Mission.	Over 200	150–200	100–150	70–100	60–70	45–60	25–45	20–25	Under 20	Total.
Paris Evangelical Missionary Society ..	1	6	33	48	31	52	89	18	22	300
Church of England ..	—	1	2	8	7	6	19	9	6	58
Roman Catholic ..	—	6	7	8	3	9	14	10	2	59
	1	13	42	64	41	67	122	37	30	417

From this table it will be seen that there are now more than 400 schools receiving grants. In another year it is possible that the number will reach 500 or more. For the financial year 1920–21 there will be 464 schools on the official list (grant-earning), and there are more than 50 others already notified as qualifying for grants.

From these figures it is sufficiently clear that Basutoland is now, from a numerical point of view, fairly well supplied with schools, but the problem of improving the character of the education given in these schools is a very perplexing one under the present financial conditions.

There are three directions in which improvement is desirable, but, unfortunately, to proceed in any one of these directions would involve considerable expenditure.

First, it is desirable to fill up vacancies with a better type of teacher than is being obtained at present. But the only way to attract better candidates for a post is to offer higher remuneration. Even in the recent advances in the rate of pay a teacher's salary does not compare favourably with the pay to be obtained elsewhere. As salaries constitute about 90 per cent. of the expenditure, even a small increase to the individual would mean a large total increase in the grant.

Secondly, it is desirable to provide schools with better furniture and equipment, but to provide four or five hundred schools merely with what is usually regarded as essential school equipment would demand a large outlay.

In the third place, greater efficiency could be secured if further Government supervision were exercised; but to increase the present department till it bore some relation to the magnitude of the work before it would also entail considerably increased expenditure.

Under these circumstances it is clear that educational progress is strictly limited by financial considerations, and until funds are available for the three essentials outlined above no radical alteration in the present system can be effected.

There is, however, one comparatively inexpensive way in which the scope of the schools may be widened, and that is by using them as centres for spreading information on matters which have a larger field of utility than the ordinary school subjects. A step in this direction was taken at the beginning of 1921, when the free distribution was approved of copies of the magazine of the South African (Native and Coloured) Health Society among some 500 head teachers. It is hoped that this policy of propaganda may be extended in other equally useful directions.

Enrolment of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	No. of Pupils on Roll, December, 1919.			No. of Pupils on Roll, December, 1920.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Missionary Society	7,841	14,376	22,217	7,974	15,441	23,415
Church of England	1,194	2,292	3,486	1,195	2,443	3,638
Roman Catholic	1,047	3,472	4,519	1,088	3,753	4,841
	10,082	20,140	30,222	10,257	21,637	31,894

This shows an increase of 1,672.

Enrolment of Pupils in Institutions.

Institutions.	Mission.	No. of Pupils on Roll, Dec., 1919.			No. of Pupils on Roll, Dec., 1920.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Morija ..	Paris Evangelical Mission Society	174	—	174	155	—	155
Th. Morena	,,	—	84	84	—	74	74
Leloaneng..	,,	19	—	19	31	—	31
Masite ..	Church of England	20	—	20	23	—	23
Maseru ..	,,	—	28	28	—	28	28
Roma ..	Roman Catholic ..	132	256	388	120	259	379
		345	368	713	329	361	690

Average Attendance of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	Year ending Dec., 1919.			Year ending Dec., 1920.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	5,787	10,124	15,911	5,798	10,677	16,475
Church of England ..	860	1,638	2,498	839	1,713	2,552
Roman Catholic	805	2,661	3,466	879	2,943	3,822
	7,452	14,423	21,875	7,516	15,333	22,849

European Schools.

	No. of Pupils on Roll, December, 1920.
Maseru	44
Morija	7
Mafeteng	16
Mohales Hoek	23
Teyateyaneng	12
Leribe	12
	114

These schools do not go beyond the elementary stage, and most pupils continue their studies at schools outside the territory.

VETERINARY.

During the past year anthrax has been more prevalent than usual, and altogether 6,852 animals have been inoculated with very good results. The instructions respecting the burial of anthrax cases are still disregarded to a considerable extent, and unless this is carried out more efficiently we can confidently look forward to no abatement of outbreaks. Legislation giving

greater control to Government officers and providing penalties for the infraction of orders is now under serious consideration, and it is hoped that it will be issued early in 1921.

Owing to the favourable outlook of east coast fever on our eastern border, all east coast fever guards have been discharged, and this border has now reverted to ordinary police control. The stock inspector who was in charge of this work has been seconded to the Bechuanaland Protectorate Administration.

The territory has been remarkably free from quarter evil, and only 330 doses of vaccine have been issued.

Equine Strangles has, as usual, been prevalent, but for the most part of a mild type, and acute cases have for the most part responded to inoculations.

Biliary fever in equines has been very prevalent at Maseru, and 43 animals have been successfully inoculated and treated against this debilitating disease.

During the year 188 slides have been examined microscopically, and most of these have been suspected cases of anthrax.

The export of cattle at Qacha's Nek has considerably decreased, owing to the slump in slaughter stock ; 1,843 head were exported, as against 8,089 during the year ended 31st March, 1920.

At the Maseru tank 202 cattle and 58 horses were dipped, chiefly for mange and lice.

Stud.—The drought conditions of the previous year persisted and very seriously interfered with horse-breeding endeavours, as without a good supply of green food it is difficult to stint mares, and newly-born foals are bound to be adversely affected owing to the shortage of mothers' milk.

During the past season 172 live foals were born to Government sires, and of these 83 were born in the Maseru district. The stallions " Tory " and " Shushu " were sold on account of old age, and the thoroughbred horses " Elf King " and " Physician " were purchased in their place.

Drought interfered with the holding of agricultural shows, and shows took place only at Leribe, Mafeteng, and Maseru. Despite the adverse conditions of the season, the Maseru show was considered the best one ever held at that centre.

AGRICULTURE.

The Agricultural Officer, Mr. L. F. Wacher, returned from war leave in January. He had been absent since June, 1915, and while he was away the development of the agricultural and tree planting activities of the Government was practically suspended, though tree nurseries were maintained and a certain amount of planting done.

During 1920 the money available on the estimates did not admit of any fresh work being started in tree planting and donga prevention, and the Agricultural Officer was mainly concerned in getting existing donga work repaired, planting new trees tc replace dead ones, and in getting the tree nurseries into good working order.

Tree nurseries are maintained at each of the seven Government camps and also at the sub-district station of Buth a Buthe. There were approximately 136,000 young trees on hand at the end of 1920 in the nurseries, and some 48,000 were issued to whites and natives during the year.

Articles on mealie growing, ploughing, donga prevention, wheat growing, and on the eradication of noxious weeds have been written in Sesuto and published in the native newspapers, and there are fair signs of a greater interest being taken by the natives than previously.

During the latter half of the year the Agricultural Officer took over the management of all farming operations at the Leper Settlement, about four miles from Maseru.

MOVEMENT OF INHABITANTS.

The following figures give the number of passes issued to natives to leave the territory during the year, as compared with the figures for the year ended 31st March, 1920 :—

	Labour.	Visiting and Miscellaneous.	Total.
1919–20	45,740 ..	70,673 ..	116,413
1920	58,305 ..	103,999 ..	162,304

GAOLS AND CRIME.

There are seven gaols and four lock-ups in the territory, and during the year 1,541 prisoners passed through them, as compared with 1,525 during the year 1919–20.

The number of convictions for contravention of the liquor laws in 1919–20 was 125, as com pared with 151 for the previous year.

Convictions for offences against property numbered 195 as compared with 171 in 1919–20.

POST OFFICE.

The net postal, telegraph and telephone revenue amounted to £7,859 16s. 8d., as compared with £6,676 12s. 2d. for the year 1919–20.

The expenditure amounted to £9,625 10s. 8d., as compared with £7,975 17s. 1d. for 1919–20.

The number and value of deposits and withdrawals in and from the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years are shown in the following table:—

	Deposits.		Withdrawals.	
1919–20	1,696	value £10,843	592	value £9,281
1920–21	1,337	,, 8,778	566	,, 9,950

The following comparative table shows the number and value of money and postal orders issued and paid during the last two years:—

	Issued.		Paid.	
1919–20	32,505	value £38,310	28,724	value £38,498.
1920–21	28,371	,, £32,551	24,834	,, £36,002.

MEDICAL.

Epidemic Diseases.

Typhus Fever may now be regarded as endemic in the territory. During 1920 cases were recognised as far north as Teyateyaneng. Contrary to the usual experience in this disease cases were more numerous in the early summer than in the winter months. There were 547 cases and 94 deaths.

The problem of dealing with typhus in a native territory like Basutoland, where a large proportion of the inhabitants are domiciled in remote mountain villages, is beset with difficulties. First and foremost is the factor of the wide prevalence of the body louse which is regarded by the people as a natural parasite, and they fail to understand why a parasite which has always been with them should be a source of disease.

The overcrowding which obtains in most huts, the habit of visiting neighbouring villages and congregating for beer drinks and local court cases are also potent factors in the spread of the disease.

It has often been possible to trace outbreaks to travellers who have visited infected centres which are nominally in quarantine. There is a certain resistance to restrictive measures coupled with indifference on the part of those who are not immediately concerned. Their cry is for medicine.

Propaganda in regard to the danger of lice has had little or no effect. The people either will not or cannot understand the important role played by these parasites. Yet the eradication of the disease depends on the delousing of the population. It is estimated that at least four-fifths of the population (equal to 400,000 souls scattered over an area of 11,700 square miles) are lousy.

Small Pox.—No cases were recorded during the year.

Enteric Fever.—Three hundred and sixty cases were reported, 182 cases admitted into hospitals, with 31 deaths. It is considered that many of these cases were really cases of typhus and mistaken for typhoid. As all clothing of fever cases admitted into hospitals is carefully disinfected, in no instance was there a spread of the infection.

Six thousand and sixty seven people were inoculated against typhoid, but early in July, owing to the presence of typhus in areas where typhoid co-existed in isolated cases, the inoculations were discontinued as it was felt that the gathering of numbers of people from villages possibly infected with typhus might lead to further spread of that disease.

Whooping Cough was fairly common, especially in the winter months, but no deaths were recorded.

Tuberculosis was less in evidence than in previous years.

Leprosy.—One hundred and eleven cases presented themselves at the outpatient departments and were sent to the leper asylum. No other epidemic diseases call for special notice.

LEPER SETTLEMENT.

There is no outstanding feature during the year, which has been a quiet and uneventful one. The majority of the patients are reconciled to their lot, and are contented and happy. More ground has been broken up for them, and most of the able-bodied men have been given gardens to cultivate. A certain number of the women have also got lands. The great difficulty at present is to find suitable labour for many of the women patients who are unable to do hard manual work.

The general health has been good on the whole. The Medical Officer has been using sodium morrhuate on a considerable number of cases, and he reports that, although it is not a specific, it improves the body-weight and well-being of the patients, and thereby tends to keep the disease in check.

The institution is handicapped for the want of a fully equipped laboratory, which it is hoped to remedy in the coming year.

The water supply is still very inadequate, and causes great inconvenience during the last four months in each year, and at a time when a plentiful supply is absolutely necessary.

On 31st December, 1919, there were 372 patients in this institution—178 males and 194 females. On 31st December, 1920, the number was 414—176 males and 238 females—an increase of 42.

Six men and three women were discharged as arrested cases.

There were 14 births.

GENERAL.

The appointment of His Royal Highness, Prince Arthur of Connaught, as High Commissioner in succession to Earl Buxton was a sincere pleasure to the Basuto. His Royal Highness assumed duty on 20th November, 1920.

The Fifteenth Session of the Basutoland Council was held from 3rd July to 22nd July, 1920. The following are the principal subjects which were discussed :—

1. Burweed eradication. The Agricultural Officer delivered an address as to the need for eradicating this and other noxious weeds. The Paramount Chief spoke strongly of the duty of chiefs to see that this work was not neglected, and said he would appoint inspectors later to go round the districts and report what was being done.

2. Proposed increase of 10s. in the native tax, which is at present £1 for each wife. The Government subsequently reduced the increase to 5s. This led to lengthy discussion, in which numerous suggestions were submitted by the natives for increasing the revenue in other directions. The increase was eventually accepted.

3. Visit of the Paramount Chief to England in 1919. Further discussion took place on this subject, principally from the aspect of the possibility of incorporation in the Union of South Africa.

4. Proposed proclamation bringing Basutoland into line with other countries as regards the protection of girls under 16 and mentally deficient women. The Council were against the proposed law, on the ground generally that it would lead to confusion with the existing native law.

5. Establishment of a "Council of Commons." This was a suggestion submitted for a council on an elective basis, as opposed to the existing nominated Council. The majority of the council were against the motion.

The Council passed a resolution expressing sorrow at the departure of Lord Buxton and pleasure at the appointment of His Royal Highness, Prince Arthur of Connaught.

During the Council the Resident Commissioner presented the Medal for Meritorious Service to Chief Lerotholi Mojela. The medal was gained as the result of meritorious service with the Native Labour Contingent in France during the late European War.

The death took place on 12th July, 1920, of Charles Edward Boyes, C.B.E., Deputy Resident Commissioner. Mr. Boyes had

been in the service since 1888, and his death was a great loss to the Administration and the territory generally. Mr. J. P. Murray, Government Secretary, was promoted to the vacant office of Deputy Resident Commissioner, and Mr. R. M. Bosworth Smith, Assistant Commissioner, to that of Government Secretary.

The death of another old Basutoland official, Thomas Ponsonby King Kennan, took place on 18th September, 1920. Mr. Kennan joined the service in 1884, and retired on pension as Assistant Commissioner in 1905. He rejoined the Administration in 1916 as Assistant Commissioner at Quthing, thereby enabling the Government to release an officer for War Service. Mr. Kennan acted for a period of some months in 1919–20 as Deputy Resident Commissioner and again retired on pension on 1st September, 1920. His unrivalled experience of native affairs always proved of the greatest assistance to the Government.

With the exception of the Leribe District, native affairs throughout the territory have been conducted on the usual peaceful lines. In the Leribe district Chief Jonathan still continued to fail to preserve order among his various sons and other relatives. In April the Chief expressed a wish to be allowed to abdicate in favour of his brother Motsoene. He made the request on account of his great age and increasing infirmity; but when called to a national pitso before the Paramount Chief, for the purpose of settling his position, he withdrew the request, and there has consequently been no change. During the year numerous faction fights took place in Jonathan's ward, most of which arose as a result of the Chief's indolence in settling disputes; guns and other weapons were used, and 8 natives were killed and some 10 wounded, while numerous huts were destroyed. The Government took strong steps to bring Jonathan to a proper sense of his responsibilities, and the position become appreciably better towards the latter part of the year.

Mokhotlong, the most isolated white police post in the territory, situated in the North of the Qacha's Nek District, has been created a sub-district for revenue purposes, similar to those at Butha Buthe and Peka in Leribe District. The staff consists of a white police officer, 13 native police, and one native assistant interpreter. During the year under review over £4,000 revenue was collected, and apart from increased facility for the collection of revenue, the establishment of the sub-district is a boon to the natives in that area, who previously would have to undertake a journey of four days on horseback in a very mountainous region to pay their taxes, etc., at the Government office in Qacha's Nek.

R. B. SMITH,

Government Secretary,

Basutoland.

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1083	Bechuanaland	1920–1921
1084	St. Helena	1920

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
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BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1921-22.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

Basutoland, which is a native territory in South Africa, is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, and on the south by the Cape Province. Its area is 11,716 square miles. It lies between 29° and 30° South latitude, and between 27° and 28° East longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 ft. to 12,000 ft. above sea level, and the climate is, on the whole, healthy. The Maluti mountains in former years were used entirely as cattle posts, but owing to the increase in population the Basuto have found it necessary to emigrate there and build villages and cultivate land, so that to-day the more or less inaccessible mountain area is gradually becoming as thickly populated as the low-lying country to the west. In favourable seasons the territory produces wheat, mealies and Kaffir corn, also cattle, horses and sheep; the export of wool for this year amounting to nearly 13 million pounds.

In 1818 the first Paramount Chief of Basutoland, Moshesh, gathered together the remnants of various tribes who had been scattered about South Africa during the wars waged by Moselekatze, and from there was founded what to-day has become the Basuto nation, consisting of upwards of 540,000 souls.

A series of wars took place between the Basuto and the inhabitants of the Orange Free State from 1856 onwards, and it was not until 1868, when Moshesh was hard pressed by the Boers, that he appealed to the British Government for help and the recognition of his people as British subjects. This was carried into effect in March, 1868. In 1871 the territory was annexed to the Cape Colony, and, after various disturbances, the Government of the Cape, in April, 1880, extended the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878 to Basutoland, amongst which was the clause for the general disarmament of the Basuto. The Basuto refused to accept the terms, and after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at by which the Act was repealed and certain fines inflicted on the tribe.

Although outwardly peace was restored, there still remained several chiefs who would in no way accept the terms, and it was

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eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This took effect on the 13th March, 1884. Since this date the territory has been governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for South Africa.

In 1903, a native National Council of 100 members was formed for the purpose of discussing internal matters, and with a view to acting in a measure as an advisory body to the Resident Commissioner.

GENERAL EVENTS OF THE YEAR.

The 16th Session of the National Council was held from 2nd to the 19th July, 1921, and amongst the more important matters dealt with were the following :—

(1) A request for an increase of Medical Officers.

(2) Amendments to the Proclamation constituting the Council. It was suggested that the present system of nominating members should cease, and that, with the exception of 24 Chiefs, the remainder should be elected by the nation. The Council, however, was divided as to the adoption of this motion.

(3) Institution of Undenominational Schools.—The motion, however, was deemed to be impracticable.

(4) Amendments to native laws dealing with abduction and seduction were passed, but suggested amendments dealing with appeals from Chief's Courts were rejected.

(5) Leper Settlement.—The Superintendent gave the Council a detailed report on conditions prevailing in the Settlement, and, after discussion, the Council agreed that marriages between lepers should not be sanctioned.

(6) Debate on the unrest in Leribe, which eventually led to the Resident Commissioner and Paramount Chief deciding to proceed there at the earliest convenient date.

During May, Their Royal Highnesses, Prince and Princess Arthur of Connaught paid a four days' visit to Maseru. His Royal Highness, on arrival, was escorted from the station by some 20,000 mounted Basuto, and, after a short interval at the headquarter office, where some addresses were presented, the Royal party proceeded to the old race-course, where a " Pitso " of the nation was held : this was attended by upwards of 50,000 natives.

Their Royal Highnesses attended the Maseru Agricultural Show and Race Meeting, and paid a visit to the Leper Settlement, as well as to other places of interest.

This was the first occasion on which this territory has been visited by members of the Royal Family, and the Paramount Chief and nation continue to express gratitude for the great honour done to them.

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After the termination of the Royal visit, the Resident Commissioner, Paramount Chief and a large following of other Chiefs proceeded to Leribe for the purpose of enquiring into the causes of unrest in that district. A "Pitso," lasting several days, took place, and orders were issued for the removal of certain of Jonathan's sons from the mountain area. These young men had been placed by their father over the heads of others, whose rights they usurped, and, as a result, a certain amount of bloodshed had been caused. The orders were carried out, and since then the situation in the Leribe district has become more or less normal.

Owing to the need for increased revenue, an income-tax was imposed on the lines of that levied in the Union of South Africa. All natives subject to the native tax laws were exempted. The first receipts from the tax were much below the estimate, but this was wholly due to the wave of commercial depression which swept through the country, and from which a recovery is only just beginning.

The death took place on 8th October, 1921, of Doctor J. H. Wroughton from blood-poisoning as the result of holding a post-mortem examination. Doctor Wroughton had joined the Service in March, 1908, and had served as a Medical Officer in various districts.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue for Basutoland for the year ended 31st March, 1922, amounted to £209,802, a decrease of £16,522 on the preceding year's revenue. There was a considerable drop in the amount received for Customs, which showed a decrease of £33,730 on the receipts of the preceding year. There was also a falling-off in the receipts for other heads of revenue due to adverse trade conditions. Under native tax, an increase of £20,095 was realized, which was the result of the increase in the rate of the tax from £1 to £1 5*s*. per annum, provided for under Basutoland Proclamation No. 53 of 31st December, 1920. The revenue derived from income-tax during the year, legislated for under Basutoland Proclamation No. 52 of 31st December, 1920, was £5,268 short of the estimate, due to the commercial depression which existed during the major part of the year.

The following figures denote the total revenue and expenditure during the past three years:—

	Revenue.	
1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.
£199,886.	£226,324.	£209,802.
	Expenditure.	
£202,441.	£252,953.	£243,078.

The balance of assets in excess of liabilities on the 31st March, 1922, amounted to £69,095.

TRADE.

The following is a return of the exports from, and the imports into the territory during the calendar year 1921, the figures for 1920 being also given:—

IMPORTS.

	1920.		1921.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£		£
Merchandize	—	1,091,840	—	468,148
Livestock :—				
Horses, Mules, etc. ..	476	3,608	66	488
Cattle	447	2,429	66	222
Sheep and Goats	190	174	230	202
Grain :—	*Muids.*		*Muids.*	
Wheat and Wheat-meal ..	1,624	4,996	1,284	2,932
Maize and Maize-meal ..	41,526	54,445	51,949	36,104
Kaffir Corn	15,339	23,089	12,509	10,360
Other Produce	—	406	—	494
	—	1,180,987	—	518,950
Government Imports ..	—	38,401	—	37,503
Total Imports ..	—	1,219,388	—	556,453

EXPORTS.

	1920.		1921.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£		£
Horses, Mules, etc. ..	270	2,784	449	3,005
Cattle	12,290	106,284	9,370	44,573
Sheep and Goats ..	2,155	2,622	6,357	3,657
	Muids.		*Muids.*	
Wheat and Wheat-meal..	88,695	218,386	110,383	152,762
Maize and Maize-meal ..	28,754	21,352	43,478	16,992
Kaffir Corn	19,119	26,553	17,146	8,563
Oats, Barley and Rye ..	110	108	62	43
Beans and Peas	3,098	4,763	1,623	1,800
	lb.		*lb.*	
Hair, Angora	2,259,741	112,358	2,330,006	63,756
Wool	10,030,954	418,785	12,826,772	211,981
Hides	210,960	9,690	60,215	899
Skins, Sheep	375,489	11,903	86,433	732
Miscellaneous	—	1,450	—	1,685
Total Exports ..	—	937,038	—	510,448

As foreshadowed in the Report for the year 1920, an early return to a state of prosperity—from a trade point of view—was not anticipated, but the balance of trade against the territory for the

period now under review was only some £46,000, as compared with £282,350 for 1920. There is, therefore, every reason to hope that the time is not far distant when the balance may again be on the right side.

To those who have taken an interest in the exports from Basutoland for some considerable number of years, it must be quite evident that they consist mainly (in fact, 93 per cent. of them) of four items only, viz.: Livestock, wheat and wheat-products, Angora hair, and wool. As compared with the previous year, the following comparisons will prove instructive with reference to the four particular exports above-mentioned:—

Livestock.—Total value, £51,235, or 54 per cent. less than 1920.

Wheat and its Products.—£152,762, there being an increase of 24 per cent. in the quantity exported, but a decrease in value of 30 per cent.

Angora Hair.—£63,756, showing an increase in weight of 3·3 per cent., but a falling-off in value of 42·25 per cent.

Wool.—£211,981, showing an increase in weight of 27·8 per cent., but a decreased value of 49 per cent.

It may be stated, with reference to the decline in value of all our principal exports, that Basutoland has suffered in common with the whole world, by reason of the great deflation of prices since the Armistice: for instance, throughout the whole of South Africa livestock can only be sold to-day at ruinous prices. Wheat was forced up to famine price, and is only now coming down to normal values. The same remarks apply to wool and mohair.

It must not be supposed, however, that two and three-quarter million pounds of wool represent the increased production for one season. It is more than probable that a considerable proportion of this apparent increase was held over from the previous year. The average weight for the two years (1920 and 1921) would thus be about 11,500,000 lb. a year, and thus approximate to the "high-water mark" reached a few years ago. It is very questionable, however, if the above records will be materially increased under the conditions now practised by flock-owners in the territory, for the reasons stated in a previous report.

Only 7 per cent. remains to represent all the other articles exported, such as: Maize, Kaffir corn, hides, skins, and miscellaneous, of which the only articles calling for remark would appear to be maize and Kaffir corn; but as 64,458 muids were imported (or re-imported) as against 60,624 muids exported, there must have been a shortage in the food supply of these cereals of some 4,000 muids.

The labour market affects trade considerably, and the fact of the diamond mines being closed to our labourers must necessarily reduce the purchasing power of the native population.

No financial statistics are available to give the actual amount earned annually from labour, that is, for wages earned outside the territory; but if we remember that some 50,000 labour passes are issued annually, and that it would not be unreasonable to estimate that £5 per head might represent the sum of money remitted to his relatives or brought back to Basutoland by each labourer on his return from work, it can easily be seen that the gross result is considerable, and that labour is one of the territory's most valuable assets.

EDUCATION.

The average daily attendance of pupils in schools and institutions is over 22,500, while the total number of pupils on the roll exceeds 32,000.

The total average attendance in schools and institutions for the year ending December has increased during the last ten years from 15,271 in 1912 to 22,586 in 1921.

As compared with the previous year, there was a decrease in the average attendance for 1921 of 893. This was due chiefly to epidemics of influenza and typhus.

Apart from the prevalence of epidemics, schools were affected by the almost unprecedented state of poverty which exists in the country, and which is evidenced in nearly every school by the ragged and scanty clothing of the pupils. Goatskins have come into wear again, and in some cases enterprising individuals have woven for themselves garments made from the wool of their own sheep.

The following grants were made to Missions for elementary schools and other educational institutions:—

Paris Evangelical Mission Society	£21,528
Roman Catholic Mission	5,330
Church of England	3,315
Total	£30,173

Of the total grant, £4,450 was spent on boarding institutions, and £25,723 on elementary schools. The latter figure works out at the rate of 16*s*. 4*d*. per pupil on the roll of elementary schools, or at the rate of 23*s*. 4*d*. per pupil if calculated on average attendance. In a country like this, where prices are comparatively high, it is improbable that education could be given at less cost per pupil than the figures quoted above.

The increase of about £10,000 above last year's grant was chiefly expended in raising the salaries of teachers which for many years had been quite inadequate. The new scale of salaries can hardly be said to have given general satisfaction, but until a larger share of the revenue is devoted to education, it will not be possible to raise substantially the salaries of the eight hundred teachers engaged in the elementary schools.

Elementary Schools According to Size and Denomination.

Mission.	Over 200	150 200	100 150	70 100	60 70	45 60	25 45	20 25	Under 20	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	1	3	14	43	25	58	113	29	34	320
Roman Catholic	—	5	7	8	3	10	24	9	6	72
Church of England	—	1	—	6	2	12	22	9	7	59
	1	9	21	57	30	80	159	47	47	451

Enrolment of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1920.			Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1921.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society ..	7,974	15,441	23,415	7,587	15,222	22,809
Roman Catholic	1,088	3,753	4,841	1,260	4,062	5,322
Church of England.. ..	1,195	2,443	3,638	1,082	2,298	3,380
	10,257	21,637	31,894	9,929	21,582	31,511

This shows a decrease of 383.

Enrolment of Pupils in Institutions.

Institution.	Mission.	Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1920.			Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1921.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Morija ..	Paris Evangelical Mission Society.	155	—	155	119	—	119
Th.Morena	,,	—	74	74	—	38	38
Leloaleng.	,,	31	—	31	32	—	32
Roma ..	Roman Catholic	120	259	379	88	226	314
Masite ..	Church of England.	23	—	23	12	—	12
Maseru ..	,,	—	28	28	—	19	19
		329	361	690	251	283	534

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE OF PUPILS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Mission.	Year ending December, 1920.			Year ending December, 1921.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society ..	5,798	10,677	16,475	5,317	10,324	15,641
Roman Catholic ..	879	2,943	3,822	933	3,087	4,020
Church of England ..	839	1,713	2,552	775	1,640	2,415
	7,516	15,333	22,849	7,025	15,051	22,076

EUROPEAN SCHOOLS.

In December, 1921, there were 121 pupils in the six schools for European children, being an increase of seven pupils as compared with last year's figures.

VETERINARY.

Anthrax has been very prevalent during the last year, and in some centres has assumed serious proportions. An Anthrax Proclamation has now been issued, and this, it is hoped, will, in the future, cause owners to carry out the necessary precautions essential to prevent further outbreaks, precautions that have for years been utterly disregarded and are responsible for the widespread infection that exists in the Territory to-day. During the year 12,993 animals were inoculated; 5,234 more than last year.

The East Coast Fever outlook has continued satisfactory and justified the economies of last year.

There is every evidence that the organism of Quarter Evil has not a wide distribution in Basutoland, and only 773 preventive doses have been issued for this disease.

Equine Biliary Fever has been fairly prevalent, and in many cases the infections have been very acute, but all animals have responded to curative treatment.

Strangles has been very prevalent, and 181 horses have been inoculated for this disease.

Bovine anaplasmosis has not been so prevalent as usual, probably due to the long periods of drought during the last year; the extremely dry conditions being inimical to the successful hatching out of tick life.

During the winter, Equine Sarcoptic Mange began to show itself at different centres, and with the advent of a bad droughty spring this disease assumed serious proportions. A short treatise was circulated in the native press and to chiefs, drawing their attention to the seriousness of this disease and giving them advice as to treatment. 234 horses were treated, and it behoves horse-

owners to eradicate this disease during the summer months when there is plenty of green grass, or serious losses will take place during the next winter.

During the year 125 blood smears were examined microscopically, and most of these were suspected cases of anthrax.

The slump in slaughter-stock has reacted adversely on the export of cattle at Qacha's Nek, only 1,069 head having passed through the dipping tank for export.

At Maseru 934 cattle and 238 horses were dipped for mange and lice.

From the following statistics it will be seen that the dipping of sheep is making satisfactory progress, no less than 302,713 sheep and goats having passed through the tanks, an increase of 39,528 on the preceding year.

During the year a proclamation was issued making it illegal to allow sheep to stray or be driven into the Union except through certain prescribed ports of exit, and it is hoped that this will be instrumental in reducing the number of complaints of scabby sheep trespassing into the Union.

Legislation is also contemplated to deal with scab on Government Reserves.

The following are the details of sheep and goats dipped:—

		Dipped for Export.		
Sheep.	Goats.	Sheep.	Goats.	Total.
279,874	5,750	13,957	3,132	302,713

STUD.

As anticipated, the abnormal drought that existed during the whole of the stud season last year has had its adverse effect on the foal return.

102 foals were born, 54 of these in the Maseru district. The present season commenced droughty, but early in November good rains fell, and it is anticipated, as a result, next foaling season will be very much better than the last. 337 mares have been covered this season.

During the year the stallions Royal Salute and Signal Hill were sold on account of old age, and the Basuto pony stallion Makhakhe purchased.

Drought interfered seriously with the agricultural shows, and only two were held in the territory.

During the year 4,609 professional visits and attendances were made by the principal veterinary surgeon.

AGRICULTURE.

The grant for agriculture and tree-planting during the period under review was £1,200, and for donga prevention £500.

Owing to the smallness of the grants, very little fresh work was undertaken; existing work in tree-planting and donga prevention was kept going.

Tree nurseries are maintained at each of the Government camps and also at the sub-district station of Butha Buthe. There were approximately 154,095 trees on hand at the end of 1921, and some 42,362 were issued to Europeans and natives during the year. The season has been most unfavourable for tree-planting, which accounts for the large number of trees on hand in the nurseries.

Donga prevention.—In December this territory was visited by the Union Drought Investigation Commission, who inspected most of the work done on donga prevention, and expressed themselves very satisfied with the results.

Articles, in Sesuto, on the destruction of noxious weeds have been published in the native newspapers.

Lectures were delivered on agriculture and gardening to the natives at the Marist Brothers Mission School at Roma.

MOVEMENT OF INHABITANTS.

The following figures give the number of passes issued to natives to leave the territory during the year, as compared with the figures for the year 1920:—

	Labour.	Visiting and Miscellaneous.	Total.
1920 ...	58,305	103,999	162,304
1921 ...	67,829	50,442	118,271

GAOLS AND CRIME.

There are seven gaols and four lock-ups in the territory, and during the year 1,527 prisoners passed through them as compared with 1,541 during the year 1920.

The number of convictions for contravention of the liquor laws in 1921 was 44 as compared with 125 for the previous year.

Convictions for offences against property numbered 160 as compared with 195 in 1920.

POST OFFICE.

The net postal, telegraph and telephone revenue amounted to £7,668 17*s*. 11*d*. as compared with £7,859 16*s*. 8*d*. for the year 1920-1921.

The expenditure amounted to £10,724 14*s*. 5*d*. as compared with £9,625 10*s*. 8*d*. for 1920-1921.

The number and value of deposits and withdrawals in and from the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years is shown in the following table:—

	Deposits.	*Withdrawals.*
1920-21 =	1,337 value £8,778.	566 value £9,950
1921-22 =	926 value £5,653.	531 value £8,189

The following comparative table shows the number and value of money and postal orders issued and paid during the last two years:—

	Issued.	*Paid.*
1920-21 =	28,371 value £32,551	24,834 value £36,002
1921-22 =	21,927 value £22,743	20,380 value £22,295

MEDICAL.

Epidemic Diseases.

Typhus fever has been prevalent during the year, the number of cases and death-rate being approximately the same as last year (503 cases, 93 deaths).

Propaganda work amongst the people has been continued, but, as stated in a previous report, the low death-rate renders them apathetic in regard to preventive measures.

Cases have on several occasions been introduced from the Union where the disease is endemic.

Influenza, though very prevalent, was trivial in character (963 cases with two deaths).

Pneumonia of a mild type has been noted with only two deaths out of 79 cases reported.

Dysentery. There were 187 cases and 14 deaths.

Smallpox was prevalent in one district (Leribe). 510 cases with 53 deaths out of a total of 521 cases and 53 deaths.

Varicella was often observed, and in native races is often mistaken for smallpox by unpractised observers.

Vaccination was enforced as far as possible when smallpox broke out in Leribe district, and is still being prosecuted throughout the territory; 78,961 people were vaccinated.

In connection with the above-mentioned infectious diseases, it is worthy of note that in the district most remote from contact with European centres, viz., Qacha's Nek, there were but few cases of any kind.

The minor infectious diseases, *e.g.*, measles, whooping-cough, do not call for special notice.

Steps were taken during the year in regard to the prevalence of syphilis. All cases of syphilis now receive free treatment, and depots have been established for the distribution of anti-syphilitic remedies. Great assistance in this connection has been given by the various missionary societies.

This action has been greatly appreciated by the natives. Remedies have been placed within reach of those living far away from the magistracies, and large numbers avail themselves of these facilities.

LEPER SETTLEMENT.

On the 31st December, 1921, there were in the settlement 491 patients—229 males and 262 females, showing an increase of 77 over the number resident on the same date the previous year.

90 patients were admitted and 63 deserters were re-admitted.

The desertions during the year numbered 41. There were only 25 deaths—the smallest on record since the opening of the institution.

Fourteen patients were discharged as arrested cases, and this result is in no small measure due to the success of the sodium morrhuate treatment adopted by Doctor Slack, the Medical Officer. A beginning has also been made with the treatment of leprosy by the ethyl-esters of the Chaulmoogric acids; but it has not been in use long enough for an opinion as to its efficiency to be given.

The general health of the establishment has been excellent during the year. There have been no epidemics, and scorbutic disease has been absent, due entirely to the addition of milk and vegetables to the dietary.

232 patients passed through the hospitals during the year, most of them suffering from cellulitis, ulcers, or other trophic lesions of leprosy.

Accommodation is provided in the infirm huts for 72 old and infirm cases. These infirmaries were provided with beds which added greatly to the comfort of the patients and to the convenience of the nursing staff. It is hoped in the coming year to provide better and more suitable accommodation for the male infirm cases. Heating-stoves were put in the hospital wards, and proved of great use during the cold winter months.

The working of the institution proceeded smoothly and satisfactorily during the year under review. The behaviour of the patients was good, and the offences dealt with were few in number and minor in nature, being mostly for breaches of the regulations.

The contented condition of the patients is influencing opinion outside, which is shown by a certain number of lepers voluntarily presenting themselves for certification, and by the return of deserters, who find that they are better within the settlement than living a precarious existence outside.

Work of one kind or another is found for 230 of the more able-bodied patients of both sexes—representing about £2,000 in wages in the year. All the sanitary services, cleansing and washing are done by the lepers. The sewing room, under the charge of the matron, and employing 15 women, does excellent work, and all the clothing for the women and children is made there. A considerable saving is thereby effected for the Government every year. Besides a lot of mending, etc., 2,771 garments were made during the year.

A tailor's shop, for the altering and repair of men's attire, was opened in the male compound, and greatly reduced the issue of clothing, especially to the sanitary and working gangs, and it is hoped a considerable saving will be made in this respect in course of time. There is also a shoemaker's shop for the repair of shoes and sandals in the male compound, where a certain amount of indifferent work is done—indifferent on account of the want of

a competent leper shoemaker. In this shop there is employed a leper who makes artificial limbs and stumps. Although not works of art, they answer the purpose for which they are intended.

There was a fair harvest, and 400 bags of mealies which had been grown in their plots and gardens were purchased from the lepers.

The farm was placed under the supervision of the agricultural officer, and provided an efficient supply of milk and potatoes, which contributed greatly to the improved health of the patients. It is hoped that, once the farm is got into good running order, it will be able to produce much, if not all, of the 1,200 bags of mealies and 500 bags of kaffir corn required annually for feeding the patients.

The European staff is now at full strength. The employment of an artizan has helped greatly in putting the place into thorough repair, and at little expense to the Government.

The number of guards is being gradually reduced as opportunity offers. Provision has hitherto been made on the estimates for 50, and the number now stands at 39.

The water-supply was better this year than last; but, until the supply, even in the severest droughts, is made an ample one, the position will still be precarious and not what it should be in an institution of this kind, where bodily cleanliness is an absolute necessity.

Quarters for the Chaplain, and a hut for the incinerator attendants were built during the year. The staff-servants' quarters were also completed.

Orchards for the patients were fenced off between the central offices and the compounds, and the one on the female side planted with different varieties of fruit-trees.

A poultry run has been erected outside the female compound, and has contributed much to the cleanliness of that compound, as has also the erection of cooking scherms to each hut.

R. B. SMITH,
Government Secretary,
Basutoland.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page.

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1095	Bahamas	1920–1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	,,
1098	Nigeria	,,
1099	New Hebrides	,,
1100	Somaliland	,,
1101	Straits Settlements	,,
1102	Swaziland	1920–1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
1106	Seychelles	,,
1107	Ashanti	,,
1108	Hongkong	,,
1109	British Guiana	,,
1110	British Honduras	,,
1111	Malta	1920–1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920–1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamacia	1921
1117	Cyprus	,,
1118	Weihaiwei	,,
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	,,
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1920–1921
1123	British Guiana	1921
1124	Grenada	,,
1125	Zanzibar	,,
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
1127	Gibraltar	,,
1128	St. Vincent	,,
1129	St. Helena	,,
1130	Fiji	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
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No. 1176.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1922-23.

(For Report for 1921–22 see No. 1131.)

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1923.

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No. 1176.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1922-23.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

Basutoland, which is a native territory in South Africa, is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, on the south by the Cape Province. Its area is 11,716 square miles. It lies between 28° 35′ and 30° 40′ south latitude, and between 27° and 29° 30′ east longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 ft. to 11,000 ft. above sea level, and the climate is, on the whole, healthy. The Maluti mountains in former years were used entirely as cattle posts, but owing to the increase in population the Basuto have found it necessary to migrate there and build villages and cultivate the land, so that to-day the more or less inaccessible mountain area is gradually becoming as thickly populated as the low-lying country to the west. In favourable seasons the territory produces wheat, mealies and Kaffir corn, also cattle, horses and sheep; the export of wool for this year amounting to nearly 13 million pounds.

In 1818 the first Paramount Chief of Basutoland, Moshesh, gathered together the remnants of various tribes who had been scattered about South Africa during the wars waged by Moselekatze, and from there was founded what to-day has become the Basuto nation, consisting of upwards of 540,000 souls.

A series of wars took place between the Basuto and the inhabitants of the Orange Free State from 1856 onwards, and it was not until 1868, when Moshesh was hard pressed by the Boers, that he appealed to the British Government for help and for the recognition of his people as British subjects. This was carried into effect in March, 1868. In 1871 the territory was annexed to the Cape Colony, and, after various disturbances, the Government of the Cape, in April, 1880, extended the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878 to Basutoland, amongst which was the clause for the general disarmament of the Basuto. The Basuto refused to accept the terms, and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at by which the Act was repealed and certain fines inflicted on the tribe.

Although outwardly peace was restored, there still remained several chiefs who would in no way accept the terms, and it was

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eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This took effect on the 13th March, 1884. Since this date the territory has been governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for South Africa.

In 1903, a native National Council of 100 members was formed for the purpose of discussing internal matters, and with a view to acting in a measure as an advisory body to the Resident Commissioner.

GENERAL EVENTS OF THE YEAR.

The 17th Session of the National Council was held from 26th August to 16th September, 1922. The following were the more important matters dealt with:—

(1) *The administration of justice in the Native Courts and the procedure for appeals to the European Courts.*—In his message to the Council His Royal Highness the High Commissioner referred to the serious complaints which had been made as to the manner in which the Native Courts performed their work, and stated that he had come to the conclusion that these complaints were not without justification. His Royal Highness urged upon the Council the gravity of the position and the need for immediate reform. After prolonged debate, the Council agreed to certain amendments to the "Melao" (Native Laws) which were designed to do away with the principal grievance against the Courts, i.e., that of delay. The High Commissioner subsequently decided that these suggestions for improved working might be given a trial.

As regards the question of appeals from Native Courts, the debate arose from the objections of a section of the Council to the present system whereby appeals from lower Native Courts go first to the Paramount Chief's Court, then to a Court consisting of the Paramount Chief and an Assistant Commissioner. The discussion on the subject was prolonged, and various substitutes for the existing methods were submitted; but the Council ultimately decided that matters should be left as they were, and considered that, if the penalties laid down for improper delays in the trial of cases were enforced, the dissatisfaction which existed would disappear.

(2) *The granting of Concessions.*—This question was also raised in the High Commissioner's message. His Royal Highness dealt at length with the danger which might arise from the granting of concessions by foolish or wicked chiefs, and stated that he had in mind the issue of a Proclamation to provide that no document signed by a Basuto Chief which purported to make a concession or grant in respect of any land or any tribal

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property or rights of the Basuto Nation should be recognised unless and until it had been sanctioned by His Majesty's Secretary of State. The Council spent two days discussing the question, and it appeared that the great majority were in favour of such a law. The Proclamation was subsequently issued—No. 65 of 1922.

(3) *Advances to native labourers for the Witwatersrand Mines, and the question of deferred payments of wages and advances.*—The Council was in favour of making the deferred payment system compulsory, both as to wages and as to advances; but it was indicated that the Government could not agree to take such a step, and that the remedy lay, to a great extent, in their own hands, as a voluntary system of deferred payments was in existence, and the only need was for the people concerned to be made to realise its great advantages.

(4) *Native Laws of Trespass.*—The Paramount Chief submitted a revised law, having for its principal object the tightening up of the present native practice in regard to pounds. The Council agreed.

(5) *Medical attendance; the number of Medical Officers available; the value of the Leper Settlement; and the dangers of Anthrax.*—These subjects were also debated, and the Councillors were eager to put forward the need for bigger efforts. The Council was addressed on these matters by the Superintendent of the Leper Settlement and the Principal Veterinary Surgeon. After the Council closed, a committee of Members visited the Leper Settlement.

(6) *The Progressive Association.*—Three days were spent discussing this organisation, which has been in existence for many years. It is a body of Basuto whose general policy is a tendency towards more democratic institutions in their own native government. They want more control placed over the Chiefs, and desire to see some elective element in the National Council, which at present consists of the Paramount Chief, ninety-four members nominated by the Paramount Chief, subject to the Resident Commissioner's approval, and five members appointed by the Resident Commissioner. The activities of the Association had not previously been generally noticeable, but they had recently attracted the attention of the Chiefs, because of their strong attacks in respect to the system of justice practised by the former. As a result of the discussion, an agreement was reached that the Association should not hold meetings in villages or elsewhere without first obtaining the permission of the Chief concerned, but this restriction was not to apply to the six centres of activity already allotted to the Association by the Paramount Chief.

The death took place on 2nd December, 1922, of Edward Hamilton Cole, Assistant Commissioner at Mafeteng. The deceased, who was only 44 years of age, had been in the Service since 1902.

Doctor E. C. Long, C.M.G., Principal Medical Officer, went on retirement on 31st December, 1922, after over 32 years' service in the Territory. He was succeeded by Doctor N. M. Macfarlane, Deputy Principal Medical Officer and Superintendent of the Leper Settlement.

Another loss was sustained in the death of Interpreter Bernard Matete on 16th September, 1922. Bernard Matete was a sub-chief and a Member of the National Council, and had been in the Government Service for over 34 years.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year ended 31st March, 1923, amounting to £212,538, was £14,762 less than the Estimate. This was mainly due to Native Tax being £15,766 below the Estimate. The crops for the two previous seasons in most instances proved poor, while grain purchased as food was expensive. There was also practically no price obtainable for stock, and, during the latter portion of the year, but little recruiting for native labour for the gold mines, with the result that many natives had not the wherewithal to pay tax.

Compared with the preceding year, the amount received as Basutoland's share af Customs Duties under Article III of the Customs Agreement showed an increase of £7,601, the amount being £60,470.

The following information is furnished by the Collector of Income Tax;—

The collection for the year was made up as follows:—

Current Tax	£2,754
Super Tax	676
Arrear normal Tax	325
	£3,755

The total income of persons assessed was £93,571.

The percentage of tax actually assessed was:—

General Traders...	5·9	per cent.
Civil Servants	12·43	,,
Employed persons other than Civil Servants	14·23	,,
Others—including Banks, *et cetera* ...	43·74	,,
Non-residents	23·7	,,
or		
Europeans	98·48	,,
Non-Europeans (Asiatics)	1·52	,,

Of the European portion of the population, 12·16 per cent. paid income tax.

The total expenditure for the year amounted to £224,547, and was £2,177 less than the Estimate. The expenditure exceeded the revenue by £12,009.

The balance of Assets in excess of Liabilities on the 31st March, 1923, was £57,105 16*s.* 6*d.*

CENSUS.

The results of the Census taken on the 31st May, 1921, were issued in Blue Book form, but it may be of interest to record some of the important figures in this Report. The native population showed 495,937; an increase of some 94,000 over the 1911 figures. This is exclusive of 47,141 absentees. Females were in the majority by over 50,000. The number of persons to the square mile was 48·30; as against 33·78 in 1904, and 38·97 in 1911. There were 359,117 natives enumerated as heathens, 66,883 French Protestant, 38,895 Roman Catholic, 18,839 Church of England, 6,181 African Methodist Episcopal, and 1,428 Wesleyan Methodist, with a small balance divided between other sects. Europeans numbered 1,603; as against 895 in 1904, and 1,396 in 1911. Maseru, the capital and largest town, had a population of 1,890 natives and 399 Europeans.

The main livestock figures were:—

Cattle	574,415
Horses	152,325
Sheep	1,854,426
Goats	894,257

There were 29,645 ploughs, and 2,589 Scotch carts and wagons.

TRADE.

The following is a return of the exports from, and the imports into, the territory during the calendar year 1922; the figures for 1921 being also given:—

IMPORTS.

	1921.		1922.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£		£
Merchandise	—	468,148	—	623,755
Livestock:—				
Horses, Mules, etc. ..	66	488	50	235
Cattle	66	222	432	1,032
Sheep and Goats	230	202	453	309
Grain:—	*Muids.*		*Muids.*	
Wheat and Wheat-meal ..	1,284	2,932	1,485	2,644
Maize and Maize-meal ..	51,949	36,104	36,584	25,176
Kaffir Corn	12,509	10,360	13,126	10,677
Other Produce	—	494	—	597
	—	518,950	—	664,425
Government Imports ..	—	37,503	—	37,700
Total Imports ..	—	556,453	—	702,125

EXPORTS.

	1921.		1922.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£		£
Horses, Mules, etc. ..	449	3,005	364	1,937
Cattle	9,370	44,573	2,342	8,022
Sheep and Goats ..	6,357	3,657	2,999	1,373
Grain:—	*Muids.*		*Muids.*	
Wheat and Wheat-meal	110,383	152,762	128,204	138,995
Maize and Maize-meal	43,478	16,992	20,316	11,188
Kaffir Corn	17,146	8,563	13,984	11,319
Oats	}		591	452
Barley	} 62	43	183	106
Rye	}		—	—
Beans and Peas	1,623	1,800	3,149	3,669
	lb.		*lb.*	
Hair, Angora	2,330,006	63,756	2,326,367	104,833
Wool	12,826,772	211,981	12,829,330	377,333
Hides	60,215	899	127,705	2,348
Skins, Sheep	86,433	732	82,542	1,171
Miscellaneous	—	1,685	—	6,584
Total Exports ..	—	510,448	—	669,330

At the close of 1921, the balance of trade against the Territory amounted to £46,000 odd. At the end of 1922 there was an adverse balance of £33,000. If, however, the labour asset is taken into account, and estimating that asset at the very reasonable sum of £150,000 for the period under review, it is manifest that what may be termed cash imports are considerably in excess of the value of the exports.

Wheat, wool and mohair still continue to contribute by far the larger share of the exports, being equal to some 92 per cent. of the total.

The export of livestock, which used to be regarded as a first-class asset, has fallen in value from £111,690 in 1920, £51,235 in 1921, to £11,332 in 1922. These figures are difficult to explain except on the supposition that the very low prices ruling for all kinds of stock in outside markets did not tempt owners to dispose of their cattle. It should be noted, however, that the weight of hides exported in 1922 was more than double that of the preceding period, indicating that some 8,000 horned cattle either died or were slaughtered during the year.

As regards wool, which is still the largest item of export, it will be observed that the weight exported in 1922 was approximately the same as in 1921, but that there was a very appreciable advance in value from £211,981 to £377,333, or 82 per cent., and from 3·96 pence per pound in 1921 to 7·058 pence per pound in 1922. In calculating the value of wool, it must not be forgotten that a proportion of the total weight consists of what is known as "Coarse and coloured," which is worth considerably less than fine Merino, the actual value of which may be estimated at a few points higher than the figures given above.

The mohair exported in 1922 amounted to 3,300 lb. more than in 1921, and the value was £41,077 more, or 64·4 per cent. The prices realised were as follows:—

In 1921	... ...	6·5 pence per pound.
1922	... ...	10·8 ,, ,, ,,

Maize and its products reveal a falling-off of 18·4 per cent. in quantity and 34 per cent. in value.

Kaffir corn also shows a decline of 18·4 per cent. in quantity, but an advance of 24·33 per cent. in value.

It may be as well to remark at this stage that, although 34,000 bags of native food supplies were exported, no less than 39,710 bags were imported or reimported; but this curious anomaly is probably to be explained by the fact that the rainfall in the northern districts (whence the supplies are exported) is more plentiful than in the south (where the supplies are usually imported), and also to the difficulties of transporting the surplus from one part of the country to other parts where a scarcity exists. Whatever the explanation, the position was that there was not sufficient by some 5,000 bags of maize and Kaffir corn for the requirements of the native population.

Imports.—The value of merchandise brought into the territory during 1922 amounted to £623,755, compared with £468,148 in 1921, or approximately one-third more.

As far as can be ascertained from data available for the purpose, the classification of imports would be as follows:—

	£
From overseas.	
Wool, Rugs and Shawls	420,350
Wool and Cotton Blankets	
Piece goods of all descriptions	
Boots and Shoes...	5,600
Grain Bags and Wool Packs	20,500
Hardware, Rough Goods...	76,335
Groceries, etc.	
From Union of South Africa.	
Boots and Shoes	8,100
Hardware and Rough Goods	92,800
Groceries (including Sugar, Coal, etc.)	

It will doubtless be illuminating to those who have taken an interest in the trade of Basutoland to learn that the imports in 1922 were three times the value of the imports of 1902, and that the exports for the same period (20 years) have increased from £166,894 to £669,333, or four times the value.

There are the undermentioned items in the list of exports which appear to call for more than a passing notice:—

(1) Wheat has varied considerably with the seasons, for instance:—

The lowest production was in 1906—8,852 bags, value £6,538.

The highest production was in 1922—128,204 bags, value £138,995.

The highest value was reached in 1920 with 88,695 bags, value £218,386.

(2) On the other hand, wool and mohair have steadily advanced, as the following table will indicate:—

Wool.

	lb.	Value.
In 1902, weight exported ...	3,729,173 ...	£ 46,794
In 1922, ,, ,, ...	12,829,330 ...	377,333
Increase in bulk was 217 per cent.		
Increase in value was 700 ,, ,,		

Mohair.

	lb.	Value.
In 1902, weight exported ...	406,853 ...	£ 10,691
In 1922, ,, ,, ...	2,326,367 ...	104,833
Increase in bulk was 470 per cent.		
Increase in value was 880 ,, ,,		

EDUCATION.

The average daily attendance of pupils in schools and institutions was 23,424, while the total number of pupils on the roll exceeded 35,000. The 1921 figures were 22,586 and 32,000.

The following grants were made to Missions for elementary schools and other educational institutions:—

	£
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	21,528
Roman Catholic Mission	5,330
Church of England	3,315
Total	£30,173

The grants are the same as those made in 1921.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ACCORDING TO SIZE AND DENOMINATION.

Mission.	Over 200	150 200	100 150	70 100	60 70	45 60	25 45	20 25	Under 20	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	1	3	26	44	31	46	102	38	46	337
Roman Catholic	—	5	6	11	8	15	32	11	10	98
Church of England	—	—	2	7	5	10	19	7	10	60
Total	1	8	34	62	44	71	153	56	66	495

In 1921 there were 451 elementary schools.

There are now many small mountain schools whose average attendance is less than 15, and the question will probably arise whether such schools should be allowed to remain on the official list.

Enrolment of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	Number of Pupils on Roll, 31st December, 1921.			Number of Pupils on Roll, 31st December, 1922.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society ..	7,587	15,222	22,809	7,874	16,459	24,333
Roman Catholic	1,260	4,062	5,322	1,501	5,262	6,763
Church of England.. ..	1,082	2,298	3,380	1,113	2,524	3,637
Total ..	9,929	21,582	31,511	10,488	24,245	34,733

This shows an increase of 3,222, which is much above the usual annual increase.

Enrolment of Pupils in Institutions.

Institution.	Mission.	Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1921.			Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1922.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Morija ..	Paris Evangelical Mission Society ..	119	—	119	116	—	116
Th.Morena	,,	—	38	38	—	22	22
Leloaleng.	,,	32	—	32	40	—	40
Roma ..	Roman Catholic	88	226	314	96	258	354
Masite ..	Church of England ..	12	—	12	11	—	11
Maseru ..	,,	—	19	19	—	33	33
Total		251	283	534	263	313	576

Average Attendance of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	Year ending December, 1921.			Year ending December, 1922.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society ..	5,317	10,324	15,641	5,342	10,465	15,807
Roman Catholic ..	933	3,087	4,020	1,044	3,606	4,650
Church of England ..	775	1,640	2,415	793	1,695	2,488
Total	7,025	15,051	22,076	7,179	15,766	22,945

European Schools.

In December, 1922, there were 113 pupils in the six schools for European children, being a decrease of 8 pupils as compared with last year's figures.

General.

All the Institutions, except Thabana Morena, are adopting the New Syllabus of the Cape Province. This syllabus is very different from the old one, and it still remains to be seen whether it will be useful and effective for Basutoland.

Thabana Morena has initiated a new course of kindergarten teaching for those girls who wish to take up teaching. This new course has made an admirable start with seven pupils in the preparatory year and six in the kindergarten section. The course is a two-year one, and it is proposed to grant certificates to those girls who pass through it satisfactorily.

VETERINARY.

This has been the worst year known for anthrax, no less than 58 outbreaks occurring in the Territory, associated with a very considerable mortality, and it is the outcome of years of neglect in dealing in a proper manner with anthrax carcases. The issue of the Anthrax Proclamation has, however, meant that considerable progress has been made in dealing with carcases, but this matter requires constant supervision. Owing to delays in getting all contacts properly inoculated in the serious outbreaks, due to the owners' difficulty in raising the necessary money to pay for the vaccine, it was decided to give free inoculation, and this has been attended with good results. Natives were trained as inoculators at the different magisterial centres, and all outbreaks have been promptly dealt with by inoculation, 61,803 bovines being inoculated during the year.

In addition to instructing native inoculators, short lectures were given to all police units and they were instructed in the art of making proper blood smears.

In investigating serious outbreaks of anthrax, the susceptibility of bovines to the disease, as compared with horses, sheep and goats, is most noticeable. Occasionally an equine contracts the disease in these well-known centres of infection, but sheep and goats appear to be very refractory to infection under natural conditions.

Fortunately, all outbreaks of anthrax have occurred in the lowlands of Basutoland, and the worst districts have been Maseru, Mafeteng, and Berea.

Owing to the infection known to exist at "outspans," compulsory inoculation of all ox transport was enforced, and this has been responsible for the prevention of much disease. In effecting this inoculation of transport animals, the Administration was much indebted to the loyal co-operation and assistance of many of the traders.

Equine mange has assumed serious proportions during the year, and in the northern mountain areas has been responsible for a considerable mortality. Dressing centres at Maseru, Teyateyaneng, Leribe, Butha Buthe and Qacha's Nek have been established and 1,430 cases have been treated, and it is hoped that, now the native owners have realised the seriousness of this disease, it will soon be finally eradicated. During the year a Proclamation was issued giving power to enforce quarantine and suitable treatment.

Strangles has, as usual, been prevalent, and 181 cases were treated at Maseru.

Quarter evil has been less than usual, only 303 doses of vaccine were issued.

There was little bovine anaplasmosis during the year, due largely it is thought, to the drought conditions which obtained.

During the year 721 blood smears were examined microscopically, and there has been much improvement in the way smears have been taken.

In Maseru 360 cattle and 380 horses were dipped for mange, lice and ticks.

The dipping of sheep has made satisfactory progress, no less than 386,014 sheep and goats having passed through the tanks during the year. This was over 83,000 more than in 1921, and nearly 123,000 more than in 1920. There was, however, a reduction in the number of sheep and goats dipped for export.

The question of introducing further legislation against scab is under serious consideration, and it is anticipated that next year there may be a law in operation which will enable considerable progress to be made in reducing the losses that ensue annually from scab.

Stud.

The year 1922 has been the most droughty year on record, and this has reacted adversely on the stud work, delaying the covering season for six weeks.

The stud was reduced, and it was decided that no stallions should be sent out into the districts in future. All stud work is now to be carried out at Maseru under supervision of the Principal Veterinary Surgeon, and it is hoped that this will be more satisfactory.

Owing to no stallions being sent out, it has been difficult to get foal returns for the previous year and these are not yet completed. At Maseru 66 foals were born to 135 covers. During the past season 149 mares were covered.

Stallions Sailor Boy and Cruickshanks were disposed of owing to old age and the policy of reducing the stud.

Agricultural shows were held at the different centres.

Professional visits and attendances to the number of 3,881 were made during the year.

AGRICULTURE.

The grant for tree-planting, fencing, destruction of weeds, *et cetera*, during the period under review was £1,200. There was no

special grant for donga prevention. The amount provided did not admit of much fresh work being undertaken during the period under review, but the tree nurseries were kept up to last year's strengtn and the existing donga prevention work in the Maseru district in repair.

The mealie crop in the Quthing district has been bad for some years, and, as an experiment, several bags of early-maturing and drought-resisting varieties of seed were issued to well-known natives. If the experiment proves successful, it should lead to a greatly improved position for the natives in the district.

Lectures were delivered at Morija, Maseru and Roma. At the latter place the lectures were specially based on Father Bernard Huss' book on agriculture. There are indications that natives are showing an increasing tendency to apply to the Agricultural Officer for advice on tree-planting and the growing of wheat, mealies and vegetables.

Tree Nurseries.—At the end of 1922 there were approximately 179,000 trees on hand, and during the year some 50,000 trees were issued to Europeans and natives as against 42,362 in 1921.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Roads.—Roads throughout the Territory have been maintained, but, owing to the reduction of the vote for this work, no substantial improvement has been made.

Waterworks.—An additional supply of 10,000 gallons per diem was obtained at the Leper Settlement by boring, the water being carried to the Compound by means of an electric pumping plant, power being derived from the existing power station.

Buildings.—Owing to the financial state of the Territory, it has not been possible to carry out various works which are necessary.

Work on the new Post Office at Maseru has been commenced on a small scale, and a Government loading platform at the Maseru Station has been built.

MOVEMENT OF INHABITANTS.

The following figures give the number of passes issued to natives to leave the Territory during the year, as compared with the figures for the year 1921 :—

	Labour.	Visiting and Miscellaneous.	Total.
1921 ...	67,829	50,442	118,271
1922 ...	57,663	59,529	117,192

GAOLS AND CRIME.

There are seven gaols and four lock-ups in the Territory, and during the year 2,206 prisoners passed through them, as compared with 1,527 during the year 1921.

The number of convictions for contravention of the liquor laws in 1922 was 63, as compared with 44 for the previous year.

Convictions for offences against property numbered 175, as compared with 160 in 1921.

POST OFFICE.

The net postal, telegraph and telephone revenue amounted to £7,521 14*s*. 1*d*., as compared with £7,668 17*s*. 11*d*. for the year 1921–22.

The expenditure amounted to £10,042 17*s*. 9*d*., as compared with £10,724 14*s*. 5*d*. for 1921–22.

The number and value of deposits in, and withdrawals from, the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years is shown in the following table:—

	Deposits.	*Withdrawals.*
1921–22 =	926 value £5,653.	531 value £8,189
1922–23 =	1,046 value £5,225.	517 value £7,471

The following comparative table shows the number and value of money and postal orders issued and paid during the last two years:—

	Issued.	*Paid.*
1921–22 =	21,927 value £22,743.	20,330 value £22,295
1922–23 =	19,693 value £20,986.	22,616 value £25,831

MEDICAL.

The medical work of the Territory continues to increase. During the year 42,528 patients passed through the Government Dispensaries, 2,402 patients were treated in the hospitals, and 1,207 major, and 1,008 minor, operations were performed.

The cry is for more medical men, but in the present financial position of the country it is not possible to provide them. The medical needs of the country are attended to by ten Government Medical Officers, two of whom are on specialist duty at the Leper Settlement, and five general practitioners, three of whom are paid District Surgeons' fees for attendance at Butha Buthe, Teyateyaneng and Mokhotlong camps. The Missionaries are allowed to dispense simple remedies, but even with their help it cannot be said that the needs of the people are adequately met, though the work done with the Government's limited resources compares favourably with that of other countries.

The distribution of free remedies for syphilis continues, and the Missionaries who assist in this report most satisfactory results.

Epidemic Diseases.

Typhus fever has become endemic and outbreaks have been reported from every district in the country; 402 cases with 70 deaths were notified by the Medical Officers. The disease is of a mild nature and many cases go unreported. It has been found most difficult to arouse the people to a sense of the gravity of the disease. The limited Medical Staff precluded vigorous measures being taken, but propaganda work is carried on, and new regulations are being framed with a view to ensuring prompt notification, disinfestation and quarantine.

Smallpox was reported in all the districts except Maseru. The outbreaks were limited in extent except in Mohale's Hoek. There were in all 421 cases with 46 deaths.

Influenza was fairly prevalent; 530 cases with 2 deaths being recorded.

Pneumonia, 77 cases and 6 deaths notified.

Dysentery, 89 cases and 2 deaths notified. Dysentery is of the bacillary variety. Amœbic or Tropical Dysentery is never seen except as an importation.

Four cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis were recorded.

Leper Settlement.

The leper population of the Institution on 31st December, 1922, was 479, comprising 220 males and 259 females, and showing a decrease of 12 as compared with the number on the same date in the previous year.

Eighty-seven new patients were admitted. It was noted that many were in the early stages of the disease, which is a sign that the objects and benefits of the Institution are being appreciated by the people. A number came voluntarily to get admission. Ten deserters were readmitted, and, from reports received, there are very few at large now. Five patients deserted during the year, which is by far the smallest number on record. All of them were returned promptly by their chiefs or their people, and this has had an excellent effect in the compounds.

There were 68 deaths, of which 12 were due to influenza. The number of deaths was much above last year, but is about the average.

Thirty-four patients were discharged as arrested cases during the year. Treatment with sodium morrhuate and the ethyl esters, of the chaulmoogric acid series is being vigorously pushed, and the good results already obtained are expected to be continued.

The patients were well behaved and gave very little trouble. Crimes were practically unknown, and consisted mostly of offences for breaches of the Settlement Regulations.

A number of outstanding cases in the Chiefs' courts were dealt with promptly, which helped to produce peace and contentment.

New regulations for visitors were sanctioned by the National Council, and have been the means of much improvement in the good order of the place. This was not brought about without a good deal of grumbling among the lepers, but they have now realised that it was for their own good.

Improvements continue to be made in the buildings and precints of the compounds. All the huts in the male compound have been provided with reed shelters, which has added to the comfort of the patients in the winter and during inclement weather. Shelters for the visitors have also been erected, and have enabled the staff to keep them under stricter observation.

Tree planting continues, and the orchards begun last year give promise of being very useful. It has been noted that fresh fruit, besides preventing scurvy, has a beneficial effect in leprosy, no doubt due to Vitamin C.

Improvements have been made on the farm, the most important of which is a large dam which will be valuable for watering stock. A mill is in course of erection, and should help in reducing the maintenance bill by grinding the grain produced on the farm and by the lepers.

The leper lands produced over 400 bags of mealies, all of which were used for feeding stuff for stock.

A plentiful supply of water has now been found, which should give the Institution an ample supply even in the severest drought, and thus remove a great source of anxiety.

The Roman Catholic Church erected a place of worship in the beginning of the year, and the English Church has just finished a large and imposing chapel. Both buildings are outside the compounds, and have been urgently needed for a long time.

R. B. SMITH,
Government Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1138	Swaziland	1921
1139	Hongkong	,,
1140	Straits Settlements	,,
1141	St. Lucia	,,
1142	Ashanti	,,
1143	Jamaica	,,
1144	Falkland Islands	1920
1145	Bahamas	1921–1922
1146	Seychelles	1921
1147	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
1148	British Solomon Islands Protectorate	1921–1922
1149	Mauritius	1921
1150	Sierra Leone	,,
1151	Uganda	,,
1152	Somaliland	,,
1153	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	(April–December) ,,
1154	Gold Coast	,,
1155	Nigeria	1922
1156	Nyasaland	1921
1157	Falkland Islands	,,
1158	Weihaiwei	1922
1159	Cyprus	,,
1160	Gambia	,,
1161	New Hebrides	1921 and 1922
1162	Nyasaland	1922
1163	Zanzibar	,,
1164	St. Helena	,,
1165	Sierra Leone	,,
1166	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
1167	Bermuda	,,
1168	Grenada	,,
1169	St. Lucia	,,
1170	Leeward Islands	1921–1922
1171	Fiji	1922
1172	Ceylon	,,
1173	Gibraltar	,,
1174	British Guiana	,,
1175	Barbados	1922–1923

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1212.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1923-24.

(For Report for 1922–23 see No. 1176.)

LONDON:
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No. 1212.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1923-24.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

Basutoland, which is a native territory in South Africa, is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, on the south by the Cape Province. Its area is 11,716 square miles. It lies between 28° 35′ and 30° 40′ south latitude, and between 27° and 29° 30′ east longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 ft. to 11,000 ft. above sea level, and the climate is, on the whole, healthy. The Maluti Mountains in former years were used entirely as cattle posts, but owing to the increase in population the Basuto have found it necessary to migrate there and build villages and cultivate the land, so that to-day the more or less inaccessible mountain area is gradually becoming as thickly populated as the low-lying country to the west. In favourable seasons the Territory produces wheat, mealies and kafir corn, also cattle, horses and sheep; the export of wool for this year amounting to over 10 million pounds weight.

In 1818 the first Paramount Chief of Basutoland, Moshesh, gathered together the remnants of various tribes who had been scattered about South Africa during the wars waged by Moselekatze, and thus founded what to-day has become the Basuto nation, consisting of upwards of 540,000 souls.

A series of wars took place between the Basuto and the inhabitants of the Orange Free State from 1856 onwards, and it was not until 1868, when Moshoeshoe was hard pressed by the Boers, that he appealed to the British Government for help and the recognition of his people as British subjects. This was carried into effect in March, 1868. In 1871 the Territory was annexed to the Cape Colony, and, after various disturbances, the Government of the Cape, in April, 1880, extended the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878 to Basutoland, which included a clause providing for the general disarmament of the Basuto. The Basuto refused to accept the terms, and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at by which the Act was repealed and certain fines inflicted on the tribe.

Although outwardly peace had been restored, there still remained several chiefs who would in no way accept the terms, and it was eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This took effect on the 13th March, 1884. Since this date the Territory has been governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for South Africa.

In 1903, a native National Council of 100 members was formed for the purpose of discussing internal matters, and with a view to acting in a measure as an advisory body to the Resident Commissioner.

GENERAL EVENTS OF THE YEAR.

The 18th Session of the National Council was held from the 7th August to the 29th August, 1923. The following were the more important matters dealt with :—

(1) *The administration of justice in the Native Courts.*—In his message to the Council His Royal Highness the High Commissioner stated that he had received reports from the Resident Commissioner showing that an improvement had taken place, and expressed the hope that the improvement would continue, and that as time went on the chiefs would, by exercising in a proper manner the powers conferred on them, allay the sense of grievance which had existed.

(2) *Scab eradication.*—The Government having decided to embark upon a more thorough campaign for the eradication of this disease, regulations were promulgated on the lines of those obtaining in the Union of South Africa. These regulations were brought before the Council, and the debate on them lasted for more than five days. The Chiefs and Councillors displayed the keenest interest. The Government agreed to certain amendments desired by the Council, and eventually all the important members indicated their agreement with the new plans.

(3) *The eradication of burrweed.*—The High Commissioner wrote strongly on this question in his message to the Council, pointing out the bad effect the existence of the weed was having on the wool, and intimated that if the natives could not make better headway in their own way towards eradicating the weed the Government would have to enact legislation on the subject. The Paramount Chief gave information about the inspectors he had appointed to deal with the evil, and urged that other chiefs should appoint their own inspectors. The Paramount Chief and other Councillors showed their disinclination for any proclamation by Government, but promised to show greater attention to the evil in the future.

(4) *Locusts.*—The Acting Resident Commissioner raised the question of the locust plague which was threatened, and to which reference is made elsewhere in this Report. The Council were urged to do everything possible to get the people to destroy the young locusts before they were able to fly.

(5) *Debt collectors.*—A general feeling against allowing debt collectors was evinced in the Council.

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(6) *Runaway boys.*—The Council asked that the Union Government might be requested to assist in preventing youths running away from their homes in Basutoland to take up work in the Union. Representations were subsequently made to the Union Government and the desired assistance was promised; but it should be remarked that reports go to show that only a few cases of runaway boys have been brought to notice.

(7) *Taking up of arms.*—The Paramount Chief and Council made strong representations that in all cases where arms were taken up the Paramount Chief should participate in the trial.

LEGISLATION.

The most important law promulgated during the year was the Wool and Mohair Export Duty Proclamation, which took effect as from the 1st April. It imposed a duty of ¼d. on every pound of wool and mohair exported from the Territory.

GENERAL.

During the latter part of the year a strenuous campaign was conducted against the locust pest, which throughout South Africa had become a serious menace. More than 23,000 swarms of young locusts were destroyed in Basutoland, the campaign costing approximately £1,000. The infestation occurred principally along the border from Teyateyaneng to south of Quthing. The northern districts and the mountain area generally were free from the pest.

There were no political events of any importance during the year.

The Resident Commissioner, Lt.-Col. Sir E. C. F. Garraway, K.C.M.G., went to England on six months' leave early in June, and Mr. J. P. Murray, Deputy Resident Commissioner, acted as Resident Commissioner.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year ended the 31st March, 1924, amounted to £252,300, an excess of £9,800 on the estimate and an increase of £39,762 on the revenue for the preceding year. The expenditure for the year was £241,570, a saving of £882 on the sum authorized. The net result shows an excess of revenue over expenditure of £10,730. The native tax collection yielded £134,589, an increase of £13,456 compared with the collection during the preceding year.

The following heads of revenue also show increases on the estimate.

	Estimate.	Actual Receipts.
	£	£
Customs and Excise	65,000	71,042
Posts and Telegraphs	7,750	8,038
Licences	7,200	7,584
Income Tax	4,000	6,773
Wool Export Duty	13,000	14,128

The last head of revenue represents a tax of ¼d. a pound on wool and mohair exported from the Territory and was imposed on the 1st April, 1923, in connection with measures taken for the eradication of scab in Basutoland.

The expenditure incurred during the year on such measures amounted to £14,222.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure during the past three years :—

REVENUE.

	1921–1922	1922–1923	1923–1924
	£	£	£
Native Tax	126,541	121,233	134,689
Customs and Excise	54,403	62,011	71,043
Posts and Telegraphs	7,661	7,522	8,038
Licences	7,174	7,097	7,585
Fees of Court or Office	970	814	783
Judicial Fines	1,461	1,305	2,009
Income Tax	2,732	3,755	6,773
Fees for services rendered	2,490	2,605	1,366
Interest	2,640	2,550	2,341
Wool Export Duty	—	—	14,128
Miscellaneous	3,730	3,645	3,545
Total	£209,802	£212,537	£252,300

EXPENDITURE.

	1921–1922	1922–1923	1923–1924
	£	£	£
Establishments	26,962	—	—
Resident Commissioner	—	(*a*) 12,554	13,749
District Administration	—	(*a*) 12,934	12,666
Police	38,184	35,647	36,122
Posts and Telegraphs	10,725	10,043	10,463
Administration of Justice	5,955	9,116	9,812
Public Works Department	4,328	5,811	6,529
Public Works Recurrent	22,484	20,371	20,951
Public Works Extraordinary	2,874	2,335	3,661
Medical	20,396	20,443	20,545
Education	35,301	34,681	34,813
Government Industrial School	2,454	2,323	2,437
Audit	650	733	(*b*) —
Agriculture	9,871	9,984	21,849
Allowances to chiefs	14,409	11,290	12,451
National Council	1,933	1,830	1,950
Leper Settlement	21,720	20,845	20,104
Pensions	4,942	5,259	6,681
Miscellaneous	9,652	4,868	5,557
Total Ordinary Expenditure	232,840	221,067	240,340
Expenditure from Surplus Balances	10,238	3,480	1,230
Total	£243,078	£224,547	£241,570

(*a*) Previously shewn as " Establishments."

(*b*) Provision now made under " Resident Commissioner."

NOTE :—The figures for 1923–24 are approximate and subject to minor adjustments.

Income Tax.

The rates of normal and super taxes imposed by Proclamation 36 of 1923 in respect of income for the year ended the 30th June, 1923, were the same as for the previous year.

Collections under this head amounted to £6,772 13s. 6d., being an increase of £3,017 6s. 4d. on the receipts for the year 1922–1923, and an excess of £2,772 13s. 6d. on the estimate for 1923–1924.

The collection was made up of :—

	£	s.	d.
Arrear Tax	136	13	10
Current Tax	6,635	19	8
	£ 6,772	13	6

On the above total the following shows the sources from which taxable incomes were derived and the amount of tax obtained from each :—

	£	s.	d.		per cent.
General Traders	4,023	10	11	or	59·41
Civil Servants	1,334	9	2	,,	19·71
Employed persons—other than Civil Servants	441	7	10	,,	6·51
Others—including Banks, etc. ..	689	2	6	,,	10·18
Non-Residents	284	3	1	,,	4·19
	£6,772	13	6	=	100 per cent.

The number of incomes assessed for current tax in the various categories were :—

No.	Category. £	Total of Taxable Incomes. £
80	301–500	33,282
49	501–750	29,798
23	751–1,000	20,134
16	1,001–1,500	18,973
12	over 1,500	39,063
180	Total taxable income of persons assessed for current tax	£141,250

TRADE.

The following is a return of the exports from, and the imports into, the Territory during the calendar year 1923, the figures for 1922 being given :—

IMPORTS.

	1922.		1923.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£		£
Merchandise	—	623,755	—	767,198
Livestock :—				
Mules, Horses, etc. ..	50	235	157	669
Cattle	432	1,032	5,580	13,097
Sheep and Goats	453	309	401	350
Grain :—	*Muids.*		*Muids.*	
Wheat and Wheat-meal ..	1,485	2,644	2,132	3,762
Maize and Maize-meal ..	36,584	25,176	10,024	8,242
Kafir Corn	13,126	10,677	2,899	2,552
Other Produce	—	597	—	622
	—	664,425	—	796,492
Government Imports ..	—	37,700	—	30,562
Total Imports ..	—	£702,125	—	£827,054

EXPORTS.

	1922.		1923.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
Livestock :—		£		£
Mules, Horses, etc. ..	364	1,937	250	1,462
Cattle	2,342	8,022	1,773	6,647
Sheep and Goats ..	2,999	1,373	734	518
Grain :—	*Muids.*		*Muids.*	
Wheat and Wheat-meal	128,204	138,995	64,144	71,791
Maize and Maize-meal	20,316	11,188	87,161	41,409
Kafir Corn	13,984	11,319	52,570	34,536
Oats	591	452	83	32
Barley	193	106	107	56
Rye	—	—	—	—
Beans and Peas ..	3,149	3,669	9,622	9,045
	lb.		*lb.*	
Hair, Angora	2,326,367	104,833	2,001,564	119,646
Wool	12,829,330	377,333	10,264,894	513,644
Hides and Skins :—				
Hides	127,705	2,348	142,336	3,035
Skins	82,542	1,171	89,731	1,751
Miscellaneous	—	6,584	—	197
Total Exports ..	—	£669,330	—	£803,769

These figures show that although there has been an increase amounting to £124,929 in the value of imports and £134,439 in the value of exports, the balance of trade against the Territory

was some £22,000, compared with £33,000 in the previous year, but deducting the £30,000 odd Government imports a slight credit balance would result, while the value of the labour asset, which it is impossible to state with any degree of accuracy, must in any case far outweigh the adverse balance.

Wool and mohair are again the largest contributors to the national earnings, and, in view of the great importance of these exports, it is interesting to give the comparative figures since 1920.

	Wool. lb.	Mohair. lb.
1920	10,030,954	2,259,741
1921	12,826,792	2,330,006
1922	12,829,330	2,326,367
1923	10,264,894	2,001,564

The large decrease in both products is difficult to account for, unless a considerable amount was held over in the Territory at the close of the statistical year. It must be remembered that these figures are obtained from traders only, and that there is no record of the undoubtedly considerable quantity of wool and mohair exported privately to Union trading stores situated just beyond the Basutoland borders. But that factor has been present in previous years, and there is no evidence to show that the private exports during 1923 had developed so largely as to account for the big drop in the traders' figures. In future years it will be possible to get an approximate estimate of the private exports by means of the Wool and Mohair Export Duty figures, and also to obtain by the same means more accurate figures of the total export than the present system allows. For this year, however, such comparisons are not possible, as the Wool and Mohair Export Duty was only commenced as from the 1st April, 1923. None the less, as the drop in export has been considerable, and cannot clearly be explained, it is interesting to note that the Wool and Mohair Export Duty of ¼d. per pound produced £14,128 for the financial year ended March, 1924. This gives a wool and mohair export of 13,562,880 lb., against 12,266,458 lb. as shown by the traders' figures for the calendar year 1923. If it were possible to place the figures against each other, the balance of 1,296,422 lb. would represent the volume of export other than through traders, *i.e.*, the private exports to Union traders.

Though wool exports were 2,564,436 lb. less than 1923, the value was greater by £136,311, the appreciation being from 7d. per lb. in 1922 to 12d. per lb. in 1923.

Again, mohair exports fell off by 314,803 lb., but there was an increase of £14,813 in the value. The average price rose from 10·8d. per lb. to 14·25d. per lb. in 1923.

As regards wheat and wheat-meal, it is disappointing to have to record that the export amounted to only one half of the quantity and value exported in 1922. On the other hand, the

1922 exports were the highest since trade statistics have been available. Basutoland, however, was not alone in the failure of the wheat crop, and the unfavourable drought conditions obtained more or less equally in the Union.

Maize and kafir corn exports quadrupled those of 1922. This was due to the good spring rains having enabled the natives to plough and sow in good time, while the crops were reaped before the arrival of the locusts.

The export of livestock figures have fallen from 1922, but the figures of cattle imported are much larger. Considerable caution must, however, be observed in making any deduction from the livestock trade figures. There is a large business done by cattle speculators from the Union, the statistics of which are not available.

Imports.

These show a considerable increase. The variety of articles was much the same as in former years: wool rugs, wool and cotton blankets, piece goods and clothing accounting for some 60 per cent. of the whole.

General.

The trade year was an undoubted improvement, and, although the depression cannot be said to have by any means disappeared, there is promise that the normal prosperity of former years may be expected at a none too distant date. In this regard, and specially in respect to traders, careful attention should be given to the income tax figures furnished in the Financial Section of this Report. They form an important guide to the economic condition of the country. The large percentage increase in the tax paid by traders is arresting, and is a clear indication that the time is approaching when the heavy losses suffered during the last few years will have been worked off.

EDUCATION.

The average daily attendance of pupils in schools and institutions is over 26,100, while the total number of pupils on the roll exceeds 39,100.

The following table shows the average attendance of pupils during the last 10 years:—

1914	17,643
1915	17,167
1916	19,496
1917	20,760
1918	21,160
1919	22,556
1920	23,497
1921	22,586
1922	23,424
1923	26,124

The following grants were made to Missions for elementary schools and other educational institutions :—

	£
Paris Evangelical Mission Society ...	21,528
Roman Catholic Mission	5,330
Church of England Mission	3,315
Total...	30,173

The grants are the same as those made for 1921 and 1922.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ACCORDING TO SIZE AND DENOMINATION.

Mission.	Over 200	150 to 200	100 to 150	70 to 100	60 to 70	45 to 60	25 to 45	20 to 25	Under 20	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	1	6	34	58	32	57	113	27	20	348
Roman Catholic	1	5	7	12	6	15	47	10	8	111
Church of England	—	—	2	12	4	12	18	7	8	63
Total	2	11	43	82	42	84	178	44	36	522

In 1922 there were 495 elementary schools.

In elementary schools the pupils enrolled were 38,494, as against 34,733 for 1922.

The average attendance was 25,616, as compared with 22,945 in 1922.

In institutions the pupils enrolled were 622, as against 576 for 1922.

EUROPEAN SCHOOLS.

In December, 1923, there were 133 pupils in the eight schools for European children, being an increase of twenty pupils as compared with last year's figures.

GENERAL.

There has been a large increase in the number of pupils attending school this year, but it should be remembered that the previous three years were years of poverty and stagnation, when normal development practically ceased.

The increase of nearly 3,000 pupils is apparently due to the advent of better times and to an awakening of interest in education, especially in the more heathen districts in the northern part of Basutoland.

VETERINARY.

ANTHRAX.

During the year 89 outbreaks of anthrax occurred, an increase of 31 on the previous year. This increase is believed to be partly due to a system of detection and investigation, which has been achieved as the result of increased co-operation of the Assistant Commissioners and Police Officers. It is also due to the fact that chiefs and headmen are now more alive to their responsibilities in reporting deaths, etc., and no doubt the discussion of anthrax at the last session of the Basutoland Council has helped towards securing more exact total reports of outbreaks than was possible in previous years. Notwithstanding the increased number of

outbreaks, there has been no serious individual mortality. This has been largely due to early diagnosis and prompt inoculation.

During the year 56,735 animals have been inoculated, 18,215 by the Veterinary Staff and 28,520 by the trained native police in the various districts. The Veterinary Department is much indebted to the police for their able work and co-operation in this matter.

Union Government spore vaccine has been used with excellent results. Prompt inoculation of all contacts invariably cleans up an outbreak. The system of enforcing inoculation of all transport oxen in infected districts has been continued, and it is felt that this has minimised the further spread of the disease.

Inoculation is also enforced on all bovines proceeding to the Orange Free State. A further effort has been made to see that the very necessary preventive measure of suitably burying the anthrax carcase is enforced, and where owners have shown neglect prosecution has resulted. Of the different districts Mafeteng and Maseru are the worst infected. There were 23 outbreaks in the Mafeteng district and 21 in Maseru. Experience respecting the susceptibility of bovines to anthrax, compared to the other domestic animals, has been the same as last year, and all attempts to get a positive diagnosis of anthrax in sheep and goats have failed; but in the worst infected centres a few equines have contracted anthrax and died.

Equine Mange.

This disease has been extremely prevalent, and considerable losses were sustained in the recent bad spring. Unless this disease can be brought under proper control the outlook in the mountain areas for horses is very serious. Horses to the number of 2,257 were treated for mange during the year, and it appears that owners are now fully alive to the seriousness of this malady. They are making a more serious effort to get their animals treated, but many headmen and chiefs have been very apathetic in helping to put a stop to the undesirable traffic of mange-infected animals, which creates fresh centres of infection.

During the year experiments were made with a view to finding a cheap and effective remedy. As a result it was discovered that if one pint of Capex (lime and sulphur) and four ounces of tobacco extract were mixed with two gallons of water and thoroughly sprayed on to the animal two or three times at an interval of five days the mange insect was effectively destroyed. Spray pumps were therefore sent with this mixture to the sheep dipping tanks in the infected areas. More recently it has been found that the same result can be brought about by using Cooper's Dip at full strength, the animal being sprayed three times at an interval of seven days, and all sheep-dipping supervisors have now been furnished with proper spray pumps. This should be the means of decentralising treatment, putting a stop to the undesirable traffic over long distances of mangy horses, and prove much more economical.

During the year, 644 blood slides have been examined microscopically. The number of cattle and horses dipped at Maseru for mange, ticks and lice was 1,646.

Scab Sheep.

As from the 1st April, 1923, it was decided that a more serious attempt should be made towards a successful campaign and a stringent scab law was accordingly introduced. Before the new law was brought into operation it was considered advisable to have it discussed in the Basutoland Council. This was very thoroughly done with the best results. The Paramount Chief and the Councillors showed great interest, and finally gave the new law their loyal support.

Eight European Scab Inspectors were engaged and given a month's thorough training in their duties, and an attempt has been made, by the erection of new tanks, to clean up the scab which existed on our Western border and which gave rise to many complaints from the Union Government.

These efforts have been crowned with much success, and all sheep and goats during the year from the Mechachaneng to the Telle river have been very efficiently dipped under European supervision. During the year no less than 1,042,269 sheep and goats have been dipped, as against 386,014 sheep and goats during 1922. This clearly illustrates how keen and loyal the native sheep owners have been in supporting the Government attempt to improve their wool and mohair.

Twenty new tanks were erected during the year.

Considerable experience has been gained in the difficult problem of erecting tanks economically and quickly, and it is hoped in the near future to evolve the best method of doing this work.

Field work has shown the value of the " Circular " dipping tank in treating scab, and it is proposed gradually to institute this type of tank throughout the Territory.

Throughout the year Cooper's Dip was employed with excellent results. Although it is an arsenical dip, the casualties for the financial year were only 191 sheep and goats, involving the payment of compensation in the sum of £85. This is very satisfactory, and speaks well for the work done by the Scab Inspectors and Native Supervisors.

Experience showed that during the year the soundness of the policy of defining an area round a dipping tank and enforcing the simultaneous dipping of all sheep and goats in that area. This method not only proved in itself most effective in eradicating scab, but also most economical. If the policy is energetically pursued and associated with a large increase of tanks, it is thought that, with the continued loyal co-operation of native owners and the chiefs, the future success of the campaign is assured.

Stud.

Of the 149 mares covered last year 70 proved in foal. All stallions were kept at Maseru during the season.

The Fell pony " Minor " was lent to the Government by the Westminster Estate for a portion of the season. This pony should mate well with Basuto mares. During the season 146 mares were covered.

There were 3,172 professional visits and attendances in the course of the year.

AGRICULTURE.

The grant was the same as last year, *i.e.*, £1,200.

Little fresh development was possible, but existing donga work has been kept in repair and the tree nurseries have been maintained. At the close of the year there were some 234,000 trees on hand, and during the year some 43,000 trees were issued.

There was a severe drought towards the close of the year, while immediately preceding it there was a severe visitation of locusts. The campaign against locusts was reasonably successful, and the natives showed some energy in their efforts to destroy the young insects. But the locust plague, combined with the drought, left the Territory at the close of the year in an unpromising state for 1924. On the other hand, agricultural conditions in Basutoland change so rapidly that undue pessimism is not justified.

One or two European traders conducted experiments in cotton-growing. The result cannot as yet be prognosticated, but it is feared that the altitude, combined with the short growing season and the uncertain frosts, will prove serious obstacles.

The position in regard to wheat, maize and kafir corn crops is dealt with earlier in the Report under the heading of Trade Statistics.

Burrweed is still prevalent, notwithstanding that great pressure has been brought to bear upon the natives to destroy it whenever it appears.

Lectures on agriculture were continued at Roma, Morija and Maseru. It is hoped during 1924 to commence on a small scale a scheme of native demonstrators in agriculture. The plan has been adopted with success in native areas in the Union of South Africa.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Roads.—Roads through the Territory have been maintained. A concrete causeway has been built across the Telle River in the Quthing District, greatly facilitating transport between Lady Grey railhead and South Basutoland.

Waterworks.—Meters were installed in Maseru which has had the result of causing consumers to be more economical, so that the present supply should be ample for many years to come.

Buildings.—Twenty sheep-dipping tanks were constructed. Work on the new Post Office at Maseru was continued, and it is hoped that this building will be ready for occupation next year.

Buildings were maintained in a fair state of preservation as far as funds permitted.

GAOLS AND CRIME.

There are seven gaols and four lock-ups in the Territory, and during the year, 1,939 prisoners passed through them, as compared with 2,206 during the year 1922.

The number of convictions for contravention of the liquor laws in 1923 was 27, as compared with 63 for the previous year.

Convictions for offences against property numbered 214, as compared with 175 in 1922.

MOVEMENT OF INHABITANTS.

The following figures give the number of passes issued to natives to leave the Territory during the year, as compared with the figures for the year 1922.

	Labour.	Visiting and Miscellaneous.	Total.
1922 ..	57,663	59,529	117,192
1923 ..	76,202	33,194	109,396

POST OFFICE.

The net postal, telegraph and telephone revenue amounted to £8,038 7*s*. 3*d*., as compared with £7,521 14*s*. 1*d*. for the year 1922–23.

The expenditure amounted to £10,463 5*s*. 3*d*., as compared with £10,042 17*s*. 9*d*. for 1922–23.

The number and value of deposits in, and withdrawals from, the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years is shown in the following table :—

	Deposits.	*Withdrawals.*
1922–23	1,046, value £5,225.	517, value £7,471.
1923–24	1,261, value £7,129.	442, value £5,512.

The following comparative table shows the number and value of money and postal orders issued and paid during the last two years :—

	Issued.	*Paid.*
1922–23	19,693, value £20,986.	22,616, value £25,831.
1923–24	20,301, value £23,248.	21,376, value £26,721.

MEDICAL.

Treatment at the Government Dispensaries was given to 48,318 patients during the year, an increase of 5,790 over the previous year. In the hospitals 2,337 patients were treated, showing a slight decrease in the admissions. The number of surgical operations performed was 2,133, as against 2,215 for the previous year.

The revenue collected from dispensaries and hospitals amounted to £2,259 17*s*. 9*d*.

The general health of the Territory was good, and, with the exception of typhus fever and smallpox, there were no serious epidemic diseases.

Sixty-eight cases of measles, 49 of chicken-pox, 9 of diphtheria, 111 of whooping cough, and 22 of enteric fever were reported, all more or less sporadic. It is to be noted that no cases of scarletina were reported during the year.

Typhus fever is still epidemic in all the districts in the Territory. The Medical Officers reported 958 cases with 120 deaths. This is a considerable increase over the previous year, due in part to the regulations regarding notification being more strictly observed. Propaganda as regards prevention has been carried out in various ways, and assistance has been given by the native press. The great difficulty has been in reaching the uneducated native and the inhabitants in the remote parts of the country. The National Council was addressed by the Principal Medical Officer on the subject at its 1923 Session, and the members were requested to assist the Government in carrying out the law as regards notifications, quarantine and disinfestation.

Smallpox of a mild type was epidemic during the year; 671 cases with 14 deaths were reported. Most of the cases occurred in the central districts of the country. This is a continuation of the epidemic reported last year.

The following were notified during the year :—Influenza, 337 cases, no deaths; dysentery, 56 cases, 1 death; pneumonia, 106 cases, 2 deaths; cerebro-spinal meningitis, 8 cases, 1 death.

Free treatment for syphilis continues to be given, and it is noted that many are availing themselves of the privilege. Venereal disease is accountable for much ill-health and disablement in spite of the efforts of the Medical Officers to instruct in the way of clean living and personal hygiene. It is satisfactory to note that one of the native newspapers has of late taken up the question seriously.

Leper Settlement.

The Leper Settlement continues to do good and useful work. The population at the end of 1923 was 467—213 males and 254 females—a decrease of 12 as against last year. There were 66 admissions, 5 re-admissions, 42 deaths, 10 desertions, and 31 discharges during the year.

The discharges were less than the previous year, but the various forms of treatment are being vigorously pushed with much success, and a considerable number await discharge in the near future.

There has been a marked fall in the death-rate, which may be attributed partly to the intensive modern treatment now given and partly to the more favourable early-stage condition of the patients now being admitted. Small difficulty is now experienced in getting patients sent to the Asylum.

There has been no important change of policy. Regulations affecting the patients were gazetted for the purpose of more clearly defining the legal status of the Superintendent.

The employment of the more able-bodied patients in useful and remunerative work contributes much to their happiness and

health. Such employment among the men takes the form of sanitary work, bath attendance, repairing of clothing and boots, road-making, gardening, etc.; among the women, laundrywork, sewing, cooking, hospital attendance, etc.

The able-bodied men get one acre of land and the women one quarter acre to cultivate, the produce of which is bought by the Government. Last year the crops were good, and 1,050 bags of maize were purchased from the patients. A mill has been erected for the grinding of this product, which is one of the chief items of dietary at the Asylum.

A new supply of water has been installed which should be of great assistance during seasons of drought.

A ward for infirm male patients has been completed, and has proved very useful.

Two large Solaria have been built for the treatment of both sexes by graduated exposure to sunlight.

The farm produced good crops during the season, and there has been an ample supply of milk, together with potatoes, fruit and vegetables, to supplement the dietary. These have gone a long way to improve the general health of the patients.

More land has been broken up, and an endeavour is being made to grow sufficient produce to feed the patients, without the necessity of purchase outside.

E. G. DUTTON,

Acting Government Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1181	British Honduras	1922
1182	Uganda	,,
1183	Federated Malay States	,,
1184	Unfederated Malay States	,,
1185	State of Brunei	,,
1186	Straits Settlements	,,
1187	Falkland Islands	,,
1188	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	,,
1189	British Solomon Islands Protectorate	1922–1923
1190	Jamaica	1922
1191	Seychelles	,,
1192	Bahamas	1922–1923
1193	Somaliland	1922
1194	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1922–1923
1195	Leeward Islands	,,
1196	Turks and Caicos Islands	1922
1197	Nigeria	1923
1198	Weihaiwei	,,
1199	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1922–1923
1200	Ashanti	,,
1201	Gambia	1923
1202	Bahamas	1923–1924
1203	Hongkong	1922
1204	Nyasaland	1923
1205	Cayman Islands	1922
1206	Cyprus	1923
1207	Gold Coast	1922–1923
1208	Trinidad and Tobago	1923
1209	Zanzibar Protectorate	,,
1210	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1923–1924
1211	Swaziland	1923

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1244.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1924.

(For Report for 1923-24 see No. 1212.)

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No. 1244.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1924.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

Basutoland, which is a native territory in South Africa, is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, and on the south by the Cape Province. Its area is 11,716 square miles. It lies between 28° 35′ and 30° 40′ south latitude, and between 27° and 29° 30′ east longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 ft. to 11,000 ft. above sea level, and the climate is, on the whole, healthy. The Maluti Mountains in former years were used entirely as cattle posts, but owing to the increase in population the Basuto have found it necessary to migrate there and build villages and cultivate the land, so that to-day the more or less inaccessible area is gradually becoming as thickly populated as the low-lying country to the west. In favourable seasons the Territory produces wheat, mealies and kafir-corn, also cattle, horses and sheep; the export of wool for this year amounting to over 11½ million pounds weight.

In 1818 the first Paramount Chief of Basutoland, Moshesh, gathered together the remnants of various tribes which had been scattered about South Africa during the wars waged by Moselekatse, and thus founded what to-day has become the Basuto nation, consisting of upwards of 540,000 souls.

A series of wars took place between the Basuto and the inhabitants of the Orange Free State from 1856 onwards, and it was not until 1868, when Moshesh was hard pressed by the Boers, that he appealed to the British Government for help and the recognition of his people as British subjects. This was carried into effect in March, 1868. In 1871 the Territory was annexed to the Cape Colony, and, after various disturbances, the Government of the Cape, in April, 1880, extended the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878 to Basutoland, which included a clause providing for the general disarmament of the Basuto. The Basuto refused to accept the terms, and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at by which the Act was repealed and certain fines inflicted on the tribe.

Although outwardly peace had been restored, there still remained several chiefs who would in no way accept the terms, and it was eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This took effect on the 13th March, 1884. Since this date the Territory has been governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for South Africa.

In 1903, a native National Council of 100 members was formed for the purpose of discussing internal matters, and with a view to acting in a measure as an advisory body to the Resident Commissioner.

GENERAL EVENTS OF THE YEAR.

On the 10th September His Excellency the Earl of Athlone paid his first official visit to the Territory as High Commissioner. His Excellency, on arrival, was escorted by some 25,000 mounted Basuto, and after a short interval at the Headquarter Offices of the Territory, the vice-regal party proceeded to the Pitso-ground, where some 50,000 natives were present.

The British Empire Parliamentary Delegates, who arrived on the same day, also attended the Pitso, and were present when His Excellency opened the National Council in the afternoon. Mr. J. H. Thomas, Secretary of State for the Colonies, who accompanied the Delegation, was also present at the Pitso and addressed the natives. He subsequently attended the National Council.

The High Commissioner paid visits to the Leper Settlement, Industrial School and other places of interest ; received addresses from Missionaries, the Chamber of Commerce and others, and after receiving deputations from certain native Chiefs, left Maseru on the 15th September.

The 19th Session of the National Council was held from 15th September to 30th September, 1924, and amongst other matters the following were the more important matters discussed :—

(1) *Administration of Justice in Native Courts.*—It was agreed that there was still a certain amount of avoidable delay in disposing of cases, due to a great extent to the non-attendance of parties and their witnesses, but on the whole there was some improvement.

(2) *Eradication of Burr-weed.*—In the main but little genuine attempt had been made by the Chiefs and people to destroy this weed, but some Councillors agreed that the Paramount Chief was in a position under the native law to enforce his orders for its destruction, and this view was emphasized by the Chairman.

(3) *Amendments to the Scab Regulations.*—The Councillors, after considerable discussion, agreed to the necessity for amendment of the regulations so as to render more efficient the working of the law.

(4) *Theft of Stock in Basutoland.*—A lively discussion took place on this subject, which resulted in a request being sent to the High Commissioner for legislation empowering the Resident Commissioner's Court to inflict corporal punishment in serious cases of stock and wool theft. This request has since been acceded to, and in certain cases corporal punishment has been inflicted, with, it is hoped, salutary effect.

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(5) *Sale of Native Beer.*—The Councillors were fairly evenly divided on this question and, after a heated discussion, the majority voted against the authorization of canteens.

LEGISLATION.

The more important Proclamations promulgated during the year were :—

The Pensions Proclamation, 1924.—Consolidating and amending the rules and regulations concerning the granting of pensions and of superannuation and other allowances to persons employed in the Government Service.

Public Service Proclamation, 1924.—Amending the law governing appointments to and promotions in the Public Service of Basutoland.

Combined Court.—Empowering the Resident Commissioner to associate with himself as a member of the Court an Advocate from the Union of South Africa, in civil cases in which both parties are Europeans.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year ended the 31st March, 1924, amounted to £252,613, an excess of £10,113 on the estimate and an increase of £40,075 on the revenue for the preceding year. The expenditure for the year was £241,668, a saving of £784 on the sum authorized. The net result shows an excess of revenue over expenditure of £10,945. The native tax collection yielded £134,689, an increase of £13,456 compared with the collection during the preceding year.

The following heads of revenue also show increases on the estimate :—

	Estimate	Actual Receipts.
	£	£
Customs and Excise	65,000	71,043
Posts and Telegraphs	7,750	8,038
Licences	7,200	7,585
Income Tax	4,000	6,773
Wool Export Duty	13,000	14,128

The last head of revenue represents a tax of ¼*d.* a pound on wool and mohair exported from the Territory and was imposed on the 1st April, 1923, in connection with measures taken for the eradication of scab in Basutoland.

The expenditure incurred during the year on such measures amounted to over £14,000.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure during the past three years :—

REVENUE.

	1921–22.	1922–23.	1923–24.
	£	£	£
Native Tax	126,541	121,233	134,689
Customs and Excise ..	54,403	62,011	71,043
Posts and Telegraphs ..	7,661	7,522	8,038
Licences	7,174	7,097	7,585
Fees of Court or Office ..	970	814	784
Judicial Fines	1,461	1,305	2,009
Income Tax	2,732	3,755	6,773
Fees for services rendered	2,490	2,605	1,366
Interest	2,640	2,550	2,341
Wool Export Duty ..	—	—	14,128
Miscellaneous	3,730	3,645	3,857
	£209,802	£212,537	£252,613

EXPENDITURE.

	1921–22.	1922–23.	1923–24.
	£	£	£
Establishments	26,962	—	—
Resident Commissioner ..	—	(*a*) 12,554	13,758
District Administration ..	—	(*a*) 12,934	12,670
Police	38,184	35,647	36,189
Posts and Telegraphs ..	10,725	10,043	10,437
Administration of Justice	5,955	9,116	9,806
Public Works Department	4,328	5,811	6,526
Public Works Recurrent..	22,484	20,371	20,990
Public Works Extraordinary	2,874	2,335	3,661
Medical	20,396	20,443	20,575
Education	35,301	34,681	34,813
Government Industrial School	2,454	2,323	2,437
Audit	650	733	(*b*) —
Agriculture	9,871	9,984	21,806
Allowances to Chiefs ..	14,409	11,290	12,448
National Council	1,933	1,830	1,950
Leper Settlement ..	21,720	20,845	20,036
Pensions	4,942	5,259	6,681
Miscellaneous	9,652	4,868	5,656
Total Ordinary Expenditure	232,840	221,067	240,439
Expenditure from Surplus Balances	10,238	3,480	1,230
Total	£243,078	£224,547	£241,668

(*a*) Previously shown as " Establishments."
(*b*) Provision now made under " Resident Commissioner."

Income Tax.

The rates of normal and super taxes imposed by Proclamation No. 36 of 1923 in respect of income for the year ended 30th June, 1923, were the same as for the previous year.

Collections under this head amounted to £6,772 13*s.* 6*d.*, being an increase of £3,017 6*s.* 4*d.* on the receipts for the year 1922–1923, and an excess of £2,772 13*s.* 6*d.* on the estimate for 1923–1924.

The collection was made up of :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Arrear Tax	136	13	10
Current Tax	6,635	19	8
	£6,772	13	6

On the above total the following shows the sources from which taxable incomes were derived and the amount of tax obtained from each :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*		per cent.
General Traders	4,023	10	11	or	59·41
Civil Servants	1,334	9	2	,,	19·71
Employed persons—other than Civil Servants	441	7	10	,,	6·51
Others—including Banks, etc. ..	689	2	6	,,	10·18
Non-Residents	284	3	1	,,	4·19
	£6,772	13	6	=	100 per cent.

The number of incomes assessed for current tax in the various categories were :—

No.	Category. £	Total of Taxable Incomes. £
80	301–500	33,282
49	501–750	29,798
23	751–1,000	20,134
16	1,001–1,500	18,973
12	Over 1,500	39,063
180	Total taxable income of persons assessed for current tax	£141,250

TRADE.

The following is a return of the imports into, and the exports from, the Territory during the calendar year 1924, the figures for 1923 being given for purposes of comparison :—

IMPORTS.

	1923.		1924.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£		£
Merchandise	—	767,198	—	788,005
Livestock :—				
Horses, Mules, etc. ..	157	669	692	2,124
Cattle	5,580	13,097	4,891	11,548
Sheep and Goats	401	350	468	216
Grain :—	*Muids.*		*Muids.*	
Wheat and Wheat-meal ..	2,132	3,762	4,666	7,582
Maize and Maize-meal ..	10,024	8,242	82,291	69,928
Kafir Corn	2,899	2,552	32,871	28,963
Other Produce	—	622	—	604
	—	796,492	—	908,970
Government Imports ..	—	30,562	—	33,309
Total Imports ..	—	£827,054	—	£942,279

EXPORTS.

	1923.		1924.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
Livestock :—		£		£
Horses, Mules, etc. ..	250	1,462	58	430
Cattle	1,773	6,647	242	1,048
Sheep and Goats ..	734	518	253	210
Grain :—	*Muids.*		*Muids.*	
Wheat and Wheat-meal	64,144	71,791	30,858	32,492
Maize and Maize-meal	87,161	41,409	9,767	6,939
Kafir Corn	52,570	34,536	14,628	8,865
Oats	83	32	—	—
Barley	107	56	39	23
Beans and Peas ..	9,622	9,045	3,010	2,927
Wool and Mohair :—	*lb.*		*lb.*	
Hair, Angora	2,001,564	119,646	2,455,950	183,076
Wool	10,264,894	513,644	11,577,384	715,665
Hides and Skins :—				
Hides	142,336	3,035	160,627	4,116
Skins	89,731	1,751	99,342	2,732
Miscellaneous	—	197	—	287
Total Exports ..	—	£803,769	—	£958,810

The above figures show that the exports from the Territory during the year exceeded the imports by some £16,000, and, deducting the £33,000 odd Government imports, show a balance

of trade in favour of the Territory of some £49,000. The balance of trade in favour of the Territory during 1923, calculated on the same basis, was approximately £7,000.

The exports of wool and mohair showed a considerable increase, both in quantity and value, over the previous year. In view of the great importance of these items, forming, as they do, the greater part of the exports of the Territory, it is interesting to compare the figures for the last five years :—

	Wool. lb.	Mohair. lb.
1920 ..	10,030,954	2,259,741
1921 ..	12,826,792	2,330,006
1922 ..	12,829,330	2,326,367
1923 ..	10,264,894	2,001,564
1924 ..	11,577,384	2,455,950

The exports of livestock by traders show a considerable decrease as compared with the figures for the year 1923. As stated in the report for last year, however, a large business is done by speculators from the Union of South Africa, and the amount of trade in this line by resident traders is practically negligible.

Wheat, maize and kafir-corn exports amounted to 55,000 odd muids, as compared with 147,700 muids in 1923, whilst 119,700 muids were imported, as compared with 14,400 in 1923. These figures show that the amount of grain grown in the Territory during the year fell a long way short of the needs of the people. The failure of the grain crop was due to the prolonged drought, which prevented the natives from ploughing and sowing their lands until late in the season, with the result that the greater part of the crops failed to mature before winter set in.

IMPORTS.

These show an increase of £100,000 over the previous year's figures. A slight increase in the imports of merchandise and a large increase in the quantity and value of grain is accountable for this.

GENERAL.

Despite the failure of the grain crop, the trade for the year showed an improvement over the previous year, and there is evidence that the Territory is well on the way to normal prosperity.

EDUCATION.

The average attendance of pupils in Schools and Institutions is now close on 30,000, while the number of pupils on the Roll is 40,814.

The following table shows the average attendance of pupils during the last 10 years :—

Table I.

Total average attendance in Schools and Institutions for the year ending December :—

1915	17,167
1916	19,496
1917	20,760
1918	21,160
1919	22,556
1920	23,479
1921	22,586
1922	23,424
1923	26,124
1924	29,267

The increase in the average attendance for 1924 is 3,143.

Table II.

Grants to Missions for Schools and Institutions :—

	£
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	21,528
Roman Catholic Mission	6,530
Church of England Mission ..	3,315
	£31,373

Table III.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ACCORDING TO SIZE AND DENOMINATION.

Mission.	Over 200	150 to 200	100 to 150	70 to 100	60 to 70	45 to 60	25 to 45	20 to 25	Under 20	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	3	9	37	69	34	63	90	26	22	353
Roman Catholic	1	5	13	9	8	16	41	9	7	109
Church of England	—	2	4	13	3	8	22	6	2	60
Total	4	16	54	91	45	87	153	41	31	522

Table IV.

ENROLMENT OF PUPILS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Mission.	Number of pupils on the Roll, December, 1923.			Number of pupils on the Roll, December, 1924.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society.	8,978	17,790	26,768	9,588	18,621	28,209
Roman Catholic ..	1,845	5,740	7,585	1,949	5,733	7,682
Church of England ..	1,289	2,852	4,141	1,434	2,895	4,329
Total	12,112	26,382	38,494	12,971	27,249	40,220

This shows an increase of 1,726.

Table V.

ENROLMENT OF PUPILS IN INSTITUTIONS.

Institution and Mission.	No. of pupils on Roll, December, 1923.			No. of pupils on Roll, December, 1924.			
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	
Morija (Paris Evangelical Mission Society).	94	—	94	77	—	77	Normal.
Th. Morena (P.E.M.S.).	—	37	37	—	37	37	Industrial and Normal.
Leloaleng .. (P.E.M.S.).	45	—	45	46	—	46	Industrial.
Roma (Roman Catholic).	127	242	369	138	245	383	Industrial; Agricultural and Normal.
Masite (Church of England).	27	—	27	18	—	18	Industrial and Normal.
Maseru (Church of England).	—	50	50	—	40	40	Industrial.
Total ..	293	329	622	279	322	601	—

Table VI.

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE OF PUPILS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Mission.	Year ending December, 1923.			Year ending December, 1924.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society.	5,942	11,552	17,494	6,439	13,272	19,711
Roman Catholic ..	1,327	4,070	5,397	1,437	4,462	5,899
Church of England ..	859	1,866	2,725	971	2,143	3,114
Total	8,128	17,488	25,616	8,847	19,877	28,724

EUROPEAN SCHOOLS.

In December, 1924, there were 131 pupils in the eight schools for European children, being a decrease of two pupils as compared with last year's figures.

VETERINARY.

ANTHRAX.

During the year 62 outbreaks of anthrax occurred, 27 less than last year. The Mafeteng District furnished the most outbreaks, 19 occurring in this district. Prompt inoculation has been carried out in all outbreaks and the actual mortality has been very low. Research laboratory vaccine has been employed with excellent results.

All transport cattle are inoculated every 12 months and all cattle entering the Orange Free State have to be inoculated prior to export.

During the year 32,873 cattle were inoculated—11,785 by the Principal Veterinary Surgeon's staff, and the remainder by the Police. Assistant Commissioners and police officers have rendered excellent assistance in this work.

EQUINE MANGE.

It is regretted that a favourable report cannot be given in regard to the endeavours to eradicate this disease. A scheme was evolved of treating all equines by spraying at the sheep dipping-tanks with full strength Cooper's Dip, and it is regretted that in practice this was found not to be successful. Climatic conditions have been much against this form of treatment, constant rain neutralizing the good effect of the spraying. In addition to the shortcomings of this treatment, many owners have neglected to carry out the instructions given them, and unless there is soon an improvement in this direction it will become necessary to legislate more forcibly in order that the necessary treatment and precautions may be better carried out.

Having recognised that the spraying treatment was not going to be effectual, the Principal Veterinary Surgeon evolved a cheap oily dressing which it is hoped will prove efficient.

During the year 5,396 horses have been sprayed and dressed. This clearly illustrates how extremely prevalent horse mange is in the Territory, and how serious this disease has become. The most infected districts are those of Butha Buthe, Leribe, Maseru and Qacha's Nek.

SHEEP SCAB.

Considerable progress has again been made during the year in the eradication of scab in those areas supplied with tanks, and it is very gratifying in repeating the scheme of simultaneous dipping all along the Orange Free State and part of the Cape borders to find how clean the flocks had become since the advent of the scab campaign, and a good demonstration of this was furnished in the Mafeteng district, where 79,000 sheep were dipped on the Wepener border and only 10 sheep were found to be infected with scab.

Similar illustrations were found in other districts and there is no doubt whatever that if sufficient tanks can be built in the Territory to give everyone proper facilities for dipping the dipping-tank can be relied upon to beat the scab parasite.

The climatic conditions have been particularly unfavourable for dipping operations. Since September the wettest summer on record has been experienced, and this has naturally resulted in much delay in the efforts to carry out simultaneous dipping in protected areas. Notwithstanding this disability, 1,459,047 sheep and goats have been dipped.

The casualties from dipping have been 225 sheep and goats, and, considering that an arsenical dip is being used, they must be looked upon as light. Efforts are being made, however, to reduce these, as they are undesirable and at times fall extremely heavily on the individual owner. Although owners are compensated for all losses, dipping casualties tend to cause dissatisfaction and endanger the confidence of the native in the work.

During the year 18 new dipping-tanks have been erected and 12 have been converted into circular stone tanks.

As tank-building has now to take place away from the main waggon roads the work is becoming more difficult and expensive, inasmuch as the material in these cases has to be transported by means of pack animals. A good instance of this has been the Namahali tank, which has been built at an altitude of 9,000 ft. Difficulties are also being experienced owing to the fact that most of the tanks now to be erected will be out of the sandstone area, which will render the building of a water-tight tank very difficult. It is hoped, however, to overcome this by making the tanks of concrete.

It has been very difficult to find good and reliable men to tender for the erection of the tanks, and in some cases this difficulty has been overcome by the permanent employment of either European or native builders. It has been found, however, that where good men can be secured the system of calling for tenders is the best, as the responsibility for the work is not then thrown on to the European staff, whose time is fully occupied in handling the dipping operations.

Observations during the last year have shown a remarkable absence of the scab parasite of the angora goat, and it is hoped to be able to make use of this observation in the future in reducing some of the dipping expenses.

During the year the Principal Veterinary Surgeon discussed sheep scab with the members of the Basutoland National Council, and it was gratifying to find in this discussion how appreciative the members were of the work which had been done and how fully they recognised the advantages of the scab eradication legislation to the Territory, and there was a unanimous wish for the speedy erection of more tanks, so that every one could avail himself of the opportunity of dipping his sheep.

Much of the success has been due to the loyal co-operation of the sheep owners, and if this persists our anticipations of a possibility of eradicating scab may be confidently looked forward to. Except for a portion of the south-east corner of the Territory, the whole of the Orange Free State and Cape borders are now supplied with tanks, and this of course reduces the possibility of scab-infected sheep trespassing into the Union to a minimum. During the next year an effort will be made to complete the erection of the necessary tanks on our south-eastern border.

All sheep dipped in protected areas have been branded, and it is hoped that it will be found possible next year to brand the sheep in each tank area with a distinctive brand, as it has been found that branding has been of great assistance in carrying out check inspections.

Fourteen thousand five hundred and one sheep and goats were exported into the Union of South Africa under the Union Regulations. Ten thousand one hundred and one of these were exported from the Qacha's Nek district.

Microscopic Slides.

During the year 458 slides were examined by the Principal Veterinary Surgeon.

Stud

During the year 83 foals were born out of 147 mares covered. This is the best return the stud has had and the quality of the foals was also the best seen. The stallion Gumshoe produced 32 foals from 40 mares—a remarkable return considering the conditions that exist in a native Territory.

General.

Nine hundred and seventy-seven cattle and horses were dipped at Maseru for ticks and lice.

Two thousand three hundred and eighty-two professional visits and attendances were made by the Principal Veterinary Surgeon of which 1,435 were to native owners.

AGRICULTURE.

The grant was the same as last year, *i.e.*, £1,200. A grant of £250 was also made for the purpose of starting Agricultural Demonstration work in the Territory.

A little fresh donga prevention work was undertaken and the existing work was kept in repair.

At the close of the year there were some 242,350 trees in the various Government nurseries, and the number of trees issued during the year was 58,295. This represents an improvement of 15,295 on last year's issues.

It is gratifying to be able to report that during the period under review there was no infestation of locusts in Basutoland.

Three Agricultural Demonstrators were employed and stationed at the chief educational centres, viz., Morija, Roma and Leloaleng, and good work is being done by them. The Agricultural Officer has several demonstration plots under him, which are turning out very successfully and it is found that the natives are taking great interest in the work. Two more demonstrators are to be engaged during the coming year.

After several experiments with cotton, it is feared that cotton-growing will never become a payable proposition in Basutoland. The drought during 1924 made the plant so late in maturing that only about half the bolls ripened. Added to this are the drawbacks of altitude and too short a growing period. Hail is also a tremendous drawback. Cotton was planted three times most carefully at Roma, but was completely destroyed each time by hail.

Burr-weed is still very prevalent in the Territory. In some parts the natives have made an attempt to destroy it, but on the whole very little is being done by them.

The wheat crop is better than it has been for some years. The mountain districts require dry weather to enable the natives to harvest their crops.

The maize and kafir-corn crops throughout the country are promising well, except where cultivation has been left too late.

On the whole, it is anticipated that a fairly good grain crop may be expected during the forthcoming season.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Roads.—An exceptionally wet season has made it impossible to maintain the surface of the roads in a satisfactory condition; floods have done so much damage to permanent work that the available funds have to a great extent been expended on repairing culverts and building retaining walls.

Water Works.—Work on a pumping-plant for Teyateyaneng is well in hand, and on completion the old system of bringing water to the camp by ox-drawn water carts will be abolished.

Buildings.—The new Post Office at Maseru has been completed, and was opened for business on 9th February, 1925.

The building of the new hospital at Qacha's Nek is in progress and will be completed during the course of next year.

GAOLS AND CRIME.

There are seven gaols and four lock-ups in the Territory, and during the year 2,049 prisoners passed through them, as compared with 1,939 during the year 1923.

The number of convictions for contravention of the liquor laws in 1924 was 76, as compared with 27 for the previous year.

Convictions for offences against property numbered 137, as compared with 214 in 1923.

MOVEMENT OF INHABITANTS.

The following figures give the number of passes issued to natives to leave the Territory during the year, as compared with the figures for the year 1923 :—

	Labour	Visiting and Miscellaneous.	TOTAL.
1923	76,202	33,194	109,396
1924	88,627	41,841	130,468

POST OFFICE.

The net postal, telegraph and telephone revenue amounted to £8,038 7*s*. 3*d*., as compared with £7,521 14*s*. 1*d*. for the year 1922–23.

The expenditure amounted to £10,437 8*s*. 3*d*., as compared with £10,042 17*s*. 9*d*. for 1922–23.

The number and value of deposits in, and withdrawals from, the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years is shown in the following table :—

	Deposits.	*Withdrawals.*
1922–23 =	1,046, value £5,225.	517, value £7,471.
1923–24 =	1,261, value £7,129.	442, value £5,512.

The following comparative table shows the number and value of money and postal orders issued and paid during the last two years :—

	Issued.	*Paid.*
1922–23 =	19,693, value £20,986.	22,616, value £25,831.
1923–24 =	20,301, value £23,248.	21,376, value £26,721.

MEDICAL.

Treatment at the Government Dispensaries was given to 57,194 patients during the year—an increase of 8,876 over the previous year. This shows that these institutions are doing good and useful work, and that the increase of the medical establishment by the appointment of an additional officer has been justified. The new Medical Officer has been stationed at Teyateyaneng in the Berea district since September and has already proved the need for medical assistance in that part of the country.

The number of patients treated in the hospitals was 2,265. There is a decrease of 72 in the number of admissions which is accounted for by the closing down for repairs of certain wards in the Maseru Hospital. The building of a cottage hospital at Qacha's Nek is proceeding and when finished should prove of great use to that remote part of the country.

It has been noted that the majority of patients seeking admission to the hospitals do so for surgical aid.

The revenue collected from the hospitals and dispensaries amounted to £2,420 17*s.* 0*d.*

The general health of the Territory was good, and with the exception of typhus fever and smallpox there was no serious outbreak of epidemic disease. It is gratifying to note that the number of cases of typhus has decreased considerably. Nine hundred and fifty-eight cases, with 120 deaths, were reported in 1923, and 556 cases, with 41 deaths, in 1924. Reports from the districts indicate that the epidemic is gradually dying out.

Smallpox (227 cases with 15 deaths) is still epidemic in the central districts of the country, principally along the slopes of the mountains and in remote villages where vaccination has not been carried out for some years.

Sixty-four thousand nine hundred and sixty persons were vaccinated during the year.

Influenza of a mild nature was prevalent in the winter and spring months, and a majority of the cases were of the gastric type. There were 693 cases reported with no deaths.

Bacillary dysentery accounted for 110 cases and there were sporadic outbreaks of mumps, measles, chicken-pox and whooping cough. None of these diseases assumed epidemic form.

Leper Settlement.

The inmates on the whole continue to be well contented with their lot, a fact which is evidenced by the smallness of the number of convictions for minor offences and breaches of regulations, as well as by some diminution in the number of desertions, and the voluntary return of nearly all the deserters.

The conditions as regards the provision of remunerative work and lands for the cultivation of crops by the lepers themselves continue to be as described in previous reports. It must be confessed that leper labour is uneconomical; that lepers are very unwilling to perform work of any kind unless they are paid for it; and that in the case of paid labour the actual output is small. Although the wages paid are not high, it is probable that the same work could be done more efficiently and at a lower cost by the hiring of outside labour. On the other hand, the thera-

peutic effect of remunerative employment is recognised in all leper institutions, and such employment must be recognised as an important part of treatment which fully justifies the expenditure incurred thereby.

On 31st December, 1923, the number of the inmates was 213 males and 254 females, or 467 in all. On 31st December, 1924, the numbers were 224 males and 237 females, making a total of 461. Thus the population appears to be fairly stationary.

There were 96 admissions during 1924, as compared with 68 in 1923, an increase of over 45 per cent. This increase does not necessarily mean that leprosy is increasing in Basutoland; sufferers from the disease, on observing the return to their homes of persons in whom the disease has become arrested, are encouraged to present themselves voluntarily for isolation.

Fifty-eight persons were discharged as arrested cases.

The death-rate in 1924 was a little higher than in 1923. The comparatively large number of discharges, viz., 58, is partly explained by the more general application of intensive treatment, partly by the fact that many old patients were discharged in whom the disease was of long standing, and had undergone spontaneous arrest. As there was a general clearing-out of such cases in 1924, it is not anticipated that patients will continue to be discharged at such a rate in the near future.

Structural Changes.—Bricks are at present being made for the purpose of replacing the wood lining with bricks and cement plaster in two of the leper huts in order to make them more vermin-proof, and of more equable temperature. If the change be found to be very advantageous, it is proposed to treat the remainder of the huts in the same way, doing as many each year as the exigencies of the finance and labour will permit.

R. B. SMITH,

Government Secretary, Basutoland.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1215	British Honduras	1923
1216	New Hebrides	,,
1217	Gibraltar	,,
1218	Jamaica	,,
1219	Sierra Leone	,,
1220	Uganda	,,
1221	Grenada	,,
1222	British Guiana	,,
1223	St. Vincent	,,
1224	St. Helena	,,
1225	Barbados	1923–1924
1226	Somaliland	1923
1227	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	,,
1228	Hongkong	,,
1229	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1923–1924
1230	Colonial Survey Committee Report	1914–1923
1231	Cayman Islands	1923
1232	Leeward Islands	1923–1924
1233	Federated Malay States	1923
1234	Mauritius	,,
1235	Straits Settlements	,,
1236	Seychelles	,,
1237	Tongan Islands Protectorate	1923–1924
1238	Brunei	1923
1239	Unfederated Malay States	,,
1240	St. Lucia	,,
1241	Bahamas	1924
1242	Falkland Islands	1923
1243	Ceylon	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1234.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1925.

(For Report for 1924 see No. 1244 (Price 9d.) and for Report for 1923–24 see No. 1212 (Price 9d.)).

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No. 1294.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1925.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

Basutoland, which is a native territory in South Africa, is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, and on the south by the Cape Province. Its area is 11,716 square miles. It lies between 28° 35′ and 30° 40′ south latitude, and between 27° and 29° 30′ east longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 ft. to 11,000 ft. above sea level, and the climate is, on the whole, healthy. The Maluti Mountains in former years were used entirely as cattle posts, but owing to the increase in population the Basuto have found it necessary to migrate there and build villages and cultivate the land, so that to-day the more or less inaccessible area is gradually becoming as thickly populated as the low-lying country to the west. In favourable seasons the Territory produces wheat, mealies and kafir-corn, also horses, cattle and sheep; the export of wool for this year amounting to 11,721,411 pounds weight.

In 1818 the first Paramount Chief of Basutoland, Moshesh, gathered together the remnants of various tribes which had been scattered about South Africa during the wars waged by Moselekatse, and thus founded what to-day has become the Basuto nation, consisting of upwards of 540,000 souls.

A series of wars took place between the Basuto and the inhabitants of the Orange Free State from 1856 onwards, and it was not until 1868, when Moshesh was hard pressed by the Boers, that he appealed to the British Government for help and the recognition of his people as British subjects. This was carried into effect in March, 1868. In 1871 the Territory was annexed to the Cape Colony, and, after various disturbances, the Government of the Cape, in April, 1880, extended the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878 to Basutoland, which included a clause providing for the general disarmament of the Basuto. The Basuto refused to accept the terms, and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at by which the Act was repealed and certain fines inflicted on the tribe.

Although outwardly peace had been restored, there still remained several chiefs who would in no way accept the terms, and it was eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This took effect on the 13th March, 1884. Since this date the Territory has been governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for South Africa.

In 1903, a native National Council of 100 members was formed for the purpose of discussing internal matters, and with a view to acting in a measure as an advisory body to the Resident Commissioner.

General Events of the Year.

Visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales paid a visit to the Territory on the 28th, 29th, and 30th May. On arrival His Royal Highness was met by the Resident Commissioner, Officials, the Paramount Chief and Chiefs. On the 29th May a Pitso, attended by fifty to sixty thousand natives, was held and addresses of welcome delivered by the Resident Commissioner and Paramount Chief and replied to by His Royal Highness. A gold-mounted walking-stick was presented to the Paramount Chief by the Prince at the Pitso, and the other prominent Chiefs received silver-mounted sticks.

After the Pitso, His Royal Highness paid a visit to the Leper Settlement at Botsabelo and then proceeded to the Basutoland War Memorial where wreaths were laid and the members of the British Empire Service League and all other ex-service men were inspected.

Whilst at Maseru His Royal Highness took a prominent part in various entertainments and games which were arranged in honour of his visit to the Territory.

Drought.

Although good rains fell during the early months of the year, the Territory suffered considerably from the drought which occurred during the spring and early summer, and it is feared that the result will be a shortfall in the maize harvest and other grain crops. This subject is further dealt with under the head "Agriculture."

Deaths of Chiefs.

The following chiefs died during the year :—

Chief Mojela.

Chieftainess Mamathe.

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National Council.

The twentieth session of the National Council was held from the 31st August to the 17th September, 1925, and in his opening address Sir Edward Garraway expressed his regret that this would be the last occasion on which he would preside over the Council.

The following were the more important matters discussed :—

(1) *Eradication of Noxious Weeds.*—This question was again very fully discussed and various suggestions made, one of which was that native inspectors should be appointed. Although attempts have been made by some of the Basuto to eradicate noxious weeds, there has been little improvement on the whole and the position still leaves much to be desired. An address was delivered by the Agricultural Officer on this subject.

(2) *Reduction of Stock.*—In general speakers were opposed to any attempt at reduction of stock and urged the usual reasons, viz. : cattle were the recognized wealth of the Basuto and were necessary to provide dowry for marriages, and also for providing hospitality.

(3) *Education Fund.*—In his opening address to the Council the Resident Commissioner explained fully the proposals which had been made for the formation of an Education Fund. Whilst the Council were unanimous in their appreciation of the benefits which would result from the formation of such a Fund, a proposal that the fund should be raised partly by a levy of 2*s.* per tax resulted in a very lively discussion. Various proposals for raising the money otherwise than by means of the levy of 2*s.* per tax were put forward, but none of them was sufficiently practicable to merit serious consideration. It was eventually agreed that the matter should again be referred to the High Commissioner and His Excellency informed of the opinion of the members in regard to the levy.

(4) *Proportional Representation in the Council.*—A motion was brought forward in which it was suggested that proportional representation should be introduced in the Council. After a discussion lasting a day and a half the motion was lost.

(5) *Scab, Equine Mange and Mange in Cattle.*—The Principal Veterinary Officer gave a brief history of the past year's work in connection with scab. The Councillors expressed great appreciation of the work that had been done and urged that steps be taken to train natives as Scab Inspectors. The Principal Veterinary Officer also addressed the Council on the subject of equine mange and mange in cattle and explained to the members the methods of treatment of the diseases.

Legislation.

The following Proclamations were promulgated during the year :—

(1) Cattle Importation Further Amendment, 1925 (No. 2).

(2) Locust Destruction Proclamation, 1925 (No. 3).

(3) Opium and Habit-forming Drugs Regulation Proclamation, 1922—Amendment (No. 4).

(4) Basutoland Witnesses Allowances Proclamation, 1925 (No. 9).

(5) Appropriation Proclamation, 1925 (No. 14).

(6) Customs Tariff and Excise Duties Amendment Proclamation, 1925 (No. 19).

(7) Income Tax Proclamation, 1925 (No. 23).

(8) Further Appropriation (1924–25) Proclamation, 1925 (No. 30).

Financial.

The revenue for the financial year ended the 31st March, 1925, amounted to £261,008, an increase of £10,108 on the Estimate. The expenditure for the year was £250,197, a saving of £2,635 on the sum authorized.

The balance of assets in excess of liabilities at the close of the financial year was £78,861 17*s.* 2*d.*

The following statements show the revenue and expenditure during the past three years.

REVENUE.

	1922–23.	1923–24.	1924–25.
	£	£	£
Native Tax	121,233	134,689	127,531
Customs and Excise ..	62,011	71,043	76,765
Posts and Telegraphs ..	7,522	8,038	8,520
Licences	7,097	7,585	7,928
Fees of Court or Office ..	814	784	906
Judicial Fines	1,305	2,009	1,991
Income Tax	3,755	6,773	12,997
Fees for services rendered	2,605	1,366	1,484
Interest	2,550	2,341	1,735
Wool Export Duty ..	—	14,128	17,189
Miscellaneous	3,645	3,857	3,962
	£212,537	£252,613	£261,008

Expenditure.

	1922–23.	1923–24.	1924–25.
	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner ..	12,554	13,758	13,692
District Administration ..	12,934	12,670	12,791
Police	35,647	36,189	36,756
Posts and Telegraphs ..	10,043	10,437	10,118
Administration of Justice	9,116	9,806	11,078
Public Works Department	5,811	6,526	5,665
Public Works Recurrent..	20,371	20,990	22,153
Public Works Extraordinary	2,335	3,661	2,383
Medical	20,443	20,575	22,795
Education	34,681	34,813	35,836
Government Industrial School	2,323	2,437	2,429
Audit	733	(*a*)	(*a*)
Agriculture	9,984	21,806 (*b*)	22,927 (*b*)
Allowances to Chiefs ..	11,290	12,448	12,323
National Council	1,830	1,950	2,193
Leper Settlement ..	20,845	20,036	19,077
Pensions	5,259	6,681	6,812
Miscellaneous	4,868	5,656	6,955
Total Ordinary Expenditure	221,067	240,439	245,983
Expenditure from Surplus Balances	3,480	1,230	4,214
Total	£224,547	£241,668	£250,197

(*a*) Provided for under " Resident Commissioner."
(*b*) Includes cost of measures taken for the eradication of Scab.

Income Tax.

The rates of normal tax and super tax in respect of incomes for the year ended the 30th June, 1924, were the same as for the previous year.

The collections for the year amounted to £12,996 9*s*. 11*d*., being an increase of £6,223 16*s*. 5*d*. on the receipts for the preceding year.

The collection was made up of :—

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Arrear Tax		
Normal		163 13 9
Current Tax		
Normal	9,081 3 7	
Super	3,751 12 7	12,832 16 2
		£12,996 9 11

The following shows the sources from which the taxable incomes were derived :—

	£ s. d.	per cent.
General Traders	8,887 12 1	or 68·38
Civil Servants	1,432 5 6	,, 11·02
Employed persons	590 17 11	,, 4·55
Others—including Banks, etc. ..	908 5 0	,, 6·99
Non-residents	1,177 9 5	,, 9·06
	£12,996 9 11	= 100 per cent.

The number of incomes assessed for current tax in the various categories were :—

No.	*Category.*	*Total of Taxable Incomes.*
	£	£
101	500 or under	37,319
66	501— 750	40,249
25	751—1,000	22,236
21	1,001—1,500	25,151
6	1,501—2,000	10,561
7	2,001—5,000	23,153
6	Over 5,000	54,092
232	Total taxable income of persons assessed for Current Tax	£212,761

Trade.

The following is a return of the imports into, and the exports from, the Territory during the calendar year 1925, the figures for 1924 being given for purposes of comparison :—

IMPORTS.

	1924.		1925.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£		£
Merchandise	—	788,005	—	733,173
Livestock :—				
Horses, Mules, etc. ..	692	2,124	425	1,021
Cattle	4,891	11,548	1,682	5,008
Sheep and Goats	468	216	338	364
Grain :—	*Muids.*		*Muids.*	
Wheat and Wheat-meal ..	4,666	7,582	3,343	6,458
Maize and Maize-meal ..	82,291	69,928	39,423	32,785
Kafir Corn	32,871	28,963	34,739	27,475
Other Produce	—	604	—	6,263
	—	908,970	—	812,547
Government Imports ..	—	33,309	—	38,431
Total Imports ..	—	£942,279	—	£850,978

EXPORTS.

	1924.		1925.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
Livestock :—		£		£
Horses, Mules, etc. ..	58	430	93	963
Cattle	242	1,048	877	4,185
Sheep and Goats ..	253	210	1,670	1,515
Grain :—	*Muids.*		*Muids.*	
Wheat and Wheat-meal	30,858	32,492	83,602	105,558
Maize and Maize-meal	9,767	6,939	71,061	34,553
Kafir Corn	14,628	8,865	3,249	2,018
Oats	—	—	413	135
Barley	39	23	44	25
Beans and Peas ..	3,010	2,927	15,771	6,549
Wool and Mohair :—	*lb.*		*lb.*	
Hair, Angora	2,455,950	183,076	1,958,877	119,285
Wool	11,577,384	715,665	11,721,411	469,315
Hides and Skins :—				
Hides	160,627	4,116	204,408	6,067
Skins	99,342	2,732	116,347	2,802
Miscellaneous	—	287	—	3,156
Total Exports ..	—	£958,810	—	£756,106

These statistics show a decided fall in volume and value compared with 1924, imports being less by £91,301 and exports by £202,704. Imports exceeded exports by £94,872, whereas in 1924 the latter exceeded the former by £16,531. This is anything but gratifying and in looking into details for an explanation of the retrogression it is seen that wool, the basic industry of the Territory, shows a decreased value of £246,350, although 144,000 lb. more wool was exported than in the previous year. This is accounted for by the fact that the sale of Basuto short wools fell from the vicinity of 13*d.* or 14*d.* in 1924 to 9*d.* or 10*d.* in 1925.

The value of mohair in the same period shows a decrease of £63,791, but 497,000 lb. less were exported.

Wheat, on the other hand, shows an increase of 52,744 muids exported and £73,061 more in value, and maize 61,294 more bags, representing an increase of £27,614, while kafir-corn exports were less by 11,370 muids or £6,847.

As to imports of grain, kafir-corn was about the same as in 1924, but the imports of maize was less by over 42,000 muids or £37,000. Thus it will be seen that although Basutoland suffered heavily through the decline in the wool market, grain crops were good, but the difference in value was far too great to adjust the balance, and the result was that in a great measure merchandise imports suffered, as shown by the decreased importation, to the extent of £54,832.

Of livestock, cattle imports dropped over 3,000 head, while exports increased by 600 head, and sheep exports by 1,400.

Education.

The average attendance of pupils in Schools and Institutions is now close on 30,005, while the number of pupils on the Roll is 42,505.

The following table shows the average attendance of pupils during the last 10 years :—

Table I.

Year.	*Average Attendance.*	*Increase.*	*Decrease.*
1916	.. 19,496	—	—
1917	.. 20,760	1,264	—
1918	.. 21,160	391	—
1919	.. 22,556	1,396	—
1920	.. 23,479	932	—
1921	.. 22,586	—	893
1922	.. 23,424	838	—
1923	.. 26,124	2,700	—
1924	.. 29,267	3,143	—
1925	.. 30,005	738	—

During this period there has been an increase of about 10,500 units of average attendance, making an average annual increase of 1,166. There have been, however, in particular years fairly wide departures from the average. From 1916 to 1920 the rate of progress was fairly steady, but in 1921 (in the slump which followed the post-war boom) the attendance decreased, and the normal position was not regained until 1923, when in a single year the whole of the arrears were wiped out. Again an unusually large increase was recorded for the year 1924, but the present year shows an increase of 738 only, and it would appear that the period of exceptionally large increase is over.

Table II.

Grants to Missions for Schools and Institutions.- Increased grants were given to the three missions from October 1st, 1925. These increases for the quarter ending the 31st December, 1925, were as follows :—

	£
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	581
Roman Catholic Mission	230
Church of England Mission	125

Total grants to Missions for year ending December, 1925.

Paris Evangelical Mission Society	22,109
Roman Catholic Mission	6,760
Church of England Mission	3,440
	£32,309

Table III.

Elementary Schools according to size and denomination.—In this table it will be noticed that there is one very large class containing 164 schools. This class contains the largest of the third class schools and represents fairly flourishing schools in the mountain areas. The average number of pupils in these schools is about 35. The last class consists of 30 schools with an attendance under 20. Nearly all these are in the mountain districts and have a hard struggle for existence owing to the sparseness of the population.

Mission.	Over 200	150 to 200	100 to 150	70 to 100	60 to 70	45 to 60	25 to 45	20 to 25	Under 20	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	2	11	37	63	27	65	103	26	19	353
Roman Catholic	1	4	8	14	5	19	40	12	5	108
Church of England	—	—	5	14	2	6	21	7	6	61
Total	3	15	50	91	34	90	164	45	30	522

Table IV.

Enrolment of Pupils in Elementary Schools.—This table hardly calls for any remark except that the increase is 1,632. This is about the average annual increase.

Mission.	Number of pupils on the Roll, Sep[illegible]4.			Number of pupils on the Roll, September, 1925.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society.	9,588	18,621	28,209	9,660	19,793	29,453
Roman Catholic ..	1,949	5,733	[illegible]2	1,990	6,008	7,998
Church of England ..	1,434	2,895	4,[illegible]9	1,458	2,943	4,401
Total	12,971	27,2[illegible]9	40,220	13,108	28,744	41,852

Table V.

Enrolment of Pupils in Institutions.—The number of pupils in Institutions remains much the same as in previous years and it is obvious from this that an increasing number of pupils must be leaving the country for Institutions in the Union of South Africa. There is one new Institution, namely, the Girls' Industrial School at Cana. This was started in August 1925.

Institution.	Mission.	No. of pupils on Roll, September, 1924.			No. of pupils on Roll, September, 1925.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Morija (Normal and Agric.)	Paris Evangelical Mission Society	77	—	77	120	—	120
Th. Morena (Normal and Industrial)*	,,	—	37	37	—	27	27
Cana (Indus.)	,,	—	—	—	—	15	15
Leloaleng (Indus. and Agric.)	,,	46	—	46	51	—	51
Roma (Normal, Indus. and Agric.)	Roman Catholic	138	245	383	136	243	379
Masite (Normal).	Church of England	18	—	18	23	—	23
Maseru (Indus).	Church of England	—	40	40	—	38	38
Total ..	—	279	322	601	330	323	653

The figures given for the Roman Catholic Mission include a considerable number of day scholars who attend the boarding schools for boys and girls at Roma. In the other missions only boarders are enrolled in the Institutions.

Table VI.

Average attendance of pupils in Elementary Schools.—The total average attendance is 29,352 pupils. This is a very low average as the enrolment is 41,852. The average attendance in camp schools and in more densely populated districts is much higher than would appear from the above figures and is probably 80 to 85 per cent. Even this however can hardly be regarded as satisfactory. The average attendance in the mountain areas is often as low as 60 per cent

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

Mission.	Year ending September, 1924.			Year ending September, 1925.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society.	6,439	13,272	19,711	6,478	13,985	20,463
Roman Catholic ..	1,437	4,462	5,899	1,412	4,449	5,861
Church of England ..	971	2,143	3,114	956	2,072	3,028
Total	8,847	19,877	28,724	8,846	20,506	29,352

GENERAL.

Mr. F. M. Urling Smith, Director of Education for Northern Nigeria, who had received a commission from the Dominions Office to undertake an investigation into education conditions in Basutoland, arrived on the 28th October and left Basutoland on the 19th of January, 1926.

During this comparatively short time Mr. Urling Smith saw practically all the different types of schools in the country, and met a very large number of Europeans and Basutos interested in education.

EUROPEAN SCHOOLS.

In December, 1925, there were 124 pupils in the eight schools for European children, being a decrease of seven pupils as compared with last year's figures.

Veterinary.

ANTHRAX.

During the year there has been a very gratifying decrease in the number of outbreaks of anthrax, 21 outbreaks having occurred as against 62 in 1924. This decrease might reasonably be ascribed as largely due to the policy of prompt inoculation of all outbreaks, and enforcement of inoculation of all transport cattle and perhaps a better effort on the part of owners of dead animals in having the carcases buried intact.

Possibly also the climatic conditions have been unfavourable to the spores of anthrax though it is feared little is understood in this direction, but it may be noted that in 1925 at any rate the first six months were abnormally wet. Credit must also be given to the spore vaccine supplied by the Union Research Laboratory which has been most satisfactory in every way.

During the year 28,739 animals were inoculated. That this was possible was largely due to the assistance and co-operation so willingly given by the Assistant Commissioners and Police Officers. Most of the inoculations were done by trained members of the Basutoland Mounted Police.

Equine Mange.

The spread of this disease has been quite alarming and has seriously threatened the equines of the Territory, and has undoubtedly been responsible for very serious losses and a disturbance in the very necessary pack transport of the mountain areas. The serious prevalence of this disease is illustrated by the fact that the Veterinary Department and the Police have dressed no less than 19,958 horses, 14,668 more than last year. The disease became distributed throughout every district, the worst districts being Butha Buthe, Leribe, Qacha's Nek and Maseru. There are two chief reasons why this disease assumed such serious proportions.

Undoubtedly the wet summer and autumn was particularly favourable to the mite of the sarcoptic mange, associated with the almost entire negligence of horse owners to make any effort to prevent its spread.

At the last two sessions of the Basutoland Council the attention of the members has been drawn to the menace and seriousness of equine mange and their obvious duties have been pointed out to them.

The only gratifying feature in dealing with equine mange has been the demonstration of the efficacy of the treatment adopted and the willing assistance many of the traders have given in dealing with this disease, recognising how seriously the disease was threatening the economic conditions of the Territory. In the winter and spring, Scab Inspectors reported serious outbreaks of sarcoptic mange in goats and on investigation all the evidence went to show that these animals had contracted the disease by being kraaled or herded with mange infected horses and this is another good reason why it is imperative that equine mange should be eradicated as the mohair industry is a very important economic factor of Basutoland.

Sheep Scab.

It is gratifying to report that good progress has again been made in dealing with this disease and this was forcibly illustrated when the policy of simultaneous dipping in protected areas in the spring was again carried out. From the Telle in the Quthing District to Moirose's in the Butha Buthe District extending along the Cape and Free State Borders, 341,369 sheep and goats were dipped and only nine flocks were found infected—a most gratifying result and one which speaks volumes for the Dipping Tank and

the policy adopted. In the early part of the year climatic conditions were very trying owing to the rain and it says much for the Veterinary staff for the way they carried out their work under these trying conditions. Since autumn the weather has been very favourable for dipping and in commencing the big campaign in October of simultaneous dipping the weather was ideal with the result that no less than 996,056 sheep were dipped as soon as the lambing and shearing were completed.

During the year 2,041,117 sheep and goats were dipped. This represents an increase of 582,070 over the number dipped last year.

A great effort has been made to study the question of mortality from dipping and as far as possible to reduce this as it is most undesirable to shake the confidence of the native sheep owner by having dipping casualties. Observations went to show that a large proportion of the dipping casualties took place amongst the flocks that were first put into a tank after the mixing of the dip. This suggested that probably proper mixing was not done and every care was taken to train the native staff in this important work, and in addition to mixing the powder very thoroughly in a bucket the mixture is now being put through a grain bag and this method as far as is humanly possible ensures proper mixing.

It is reasonable to assume that these efforts have been of considerable value in view of the fact that the casualties for the year out of 2,041,117 sheep have been 442 (·0217 per cent.).

When it is realized that the majority of the dipping is in native hands and an arsenical dip is used the result is remarkably low.

Dipping Tanks.

The erection of tanks in the lowlands is practically completed and is now gradually extending into the mountain areas, which fact has not decreased the difficulties in building tanks.

In some districts it is found to be most difficult to secure the services of reliable workmen either European or native. Good European workmen are not inclined to rough it under the climatic and local disabilities of the mountains. All material, &c. has to be taken to the chosen site on pack animals, often over mountains up to 8,000 feet. With these transport difficulties the expenses incurred with each tank are increasing, and this means that it will not be possible to build the annual complement of tanks. As the mountain area only consists of iron-stone this adds considerably to the difficulties of tank building.

Twenty-eight new or reconstructed tanks have been erected during the year.

It has not been possible to complete the tanking of the south-eastern border of the Territory owing to the difficulties of transport and of securing the services of reliable builders, but it is hoped soon to complete these arrangements.

At the last Session of the Council it was gratifying to find how appreciative the members were of the work being done and of the great benefit it had been to the sheep and goats of the Territory.

The weakest spot in the scab eradication campaign is the movement of sheep from outside or from unprotected areas into protected areas and difficulty has been experienced in teaching owners that no movement of sheep into protected areas must take place without a permit either from the dipping supervisor of these areas or the Scab Inspector.

Goat Scab.

As previously mentioned, this disease appeared most unexpectedly; hitherto it was imagined to be non-existent in the Territory. Goat scab being due to a sarcopt (a mite that burrows) is a very difficult disease to eradicate by dipping although full strength dip is used. From observations it is doubtful if ordinary dipping will eradicate a severe outbreak of goat scab.

Worms in Sheep.

The wet summer of this year clearly demonstrated what a serious menance to the sheep industry worms in sheep would be if the climatic conditions of moisture favourable to the life history of the wire-worm and tape-worms were customary.

In the autumn large numbers of sheep showed clinical evidence of internal parasites and their health suffered seriously in consequence.

Advice was given to owners in this matter and the attention of the members of the Basutoland Council was drawn to this important matter.

Stud.

Seventy-five mares proved in foal out of 153 mares covered. The past stud season has been rather trying owing to the drought and excessive heat, and pasturage has not been as good as it should be for breeding-mares.

General.

In the course of the year 2,559 professional attendances were made by the Principal Veterinary Officer and of these 1,728 were to native owners.

Agriculture.

The grant for Agriculture and Tree-planting was £1,200.

Donga Prevention.

The existing work was kept in repair and a little fresh work undertaken.

Tree-Planting, Etc.

At the close of the year there were some 217,000 trees in the various Goverment nurseries and the number of trees issued during the year was 61,225. 3,340 trees were planted out on the various Government reserves. It is noticeable that more interest is being taken by the natives in tree-planting. The Agricultural Officer is being asked for much more advice on tree-planting than has hitherto been the case.

Locust Destruction.

During the period under review there were no fresh outbreaks of voetgangers in the Territory. Several large swarms of flying locusts were seen but they were migratory and as far as can be ascertained they did not lay eggs in Basutoland.

Agricultural Shows.

Agricultural shows were held at Maseru, Teyateyaneng, Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek and Quthing.

Agricultural Demonstration Work.

A sum of £700 was set aside for agricultural demonstration work. Of this £450 was used to pay the demonstrators and £250 in the purchase of implements and seed. The year has been an exceptionally difficult one owing to the prolonged drought and to the infestation of cut-worm in the lands. The number of agricultural demonstrators was increased to five during the year.

General.

The natives are now showing far more interest in improved methods of agriculture. Advice on cultivation, the best varieties of seed to grow and the right type of implements to use, is constantly being sought.

Owing to the severe drought which occurred towards the end of the year, many lands were left uncultivated. It is feared that the maize and kafir-corn crops will in consequence be rather poor. Good rains, have, however, now fallen and it is hoped that wheat will be sown in the lands left unplanted with maize, &c.

Public Works.

Roads.

The condition of the road surfaces has improved during the year but a great deal of permanent work is still necessary to meet the requirements of the Territory.

BUILDINGS.

A new Court Room was built at Teyateyaneng. A new house has also been erected for the Medical Officer at Teyateyaneng and is now occupied.

The Hospital at Quacha's Nek has now been completed.

Alterations and additions to the Assistant Commissioner's quarters at Maseru have been made, and new rooms have been added to the European Teacher's quarters.

SEAKA PONT.

The new pont at Seaka has now been completed.

WATER-WORKS.

Maseru.—Repairs have been carried out on the river water plant and several new leads have been put in.

Leribe.—Additional springs were brought into use giving 12,000 gallons of water per diem, through 2 miles of 1½ inch piping.

Butha Buthe.—An additional mile of 1½ inch piping has been laid into this camp, greatly increasing the water supply.

Teyateyaneng.—The pumping plant for this camp was completed early in the year and is giving satisfaction.

Gaols and Crime.

There are seven gaols and four lock-ups in the Territory, and during the year 2,216 prisoners passed through them, as compared with 2,049 during the year 1924.

The number of convictions for contravention of the liquor laws in 1925 was 48, as compared with 76 for the previous year.

Convictions for offences against property numbered 439, as compared with 137 in 1924.

Movement of Inhabitants.

The following figures give the number of passes issued to natives to leave the Territory during the year, as compared with the figures for the year 1924 :—

	Labour	Visiting and Miscellaneous.	TOTAL.
1924	88,627	41,841	130,468
1925	70,048	29,392	99,440

Post Office.

The net postal, telegraph and telephone revenue amounted to £8,520 6*s*. 1*d*., as compared with £8,038 7*s*. 3*d*. for the year 1923–24.

The expenditure amounted to £10,117 14*s*. 2*d*., as compared with £10,437 8*s*. 3*d*. for 1923–24.

The number of deposits in, and withdrawals from, the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years is shown in the following table :—

	Deposits.	*Withdrawals.*
1923–24 =	1,261, value £7,129.	442, value £5,512.
1924–25 =	1,122, value £6,229.	503, value £4,715.

The following comparative table shows the number and value of money and postal orders issued and paid during the last two years :—

	Issued.	*Paid.*
1923–24 =	20,301, value £23,248.	21,376, value £26,721.
1924–25 =	26,373, value £24,131.	33,148, value £42,457.

Medical.

During the year 59,529 patients were treated at the Government dispensaries—an increase of 2,335 over the previous year. The number of patients treated in the hospitals during the year was 2,221. This shows a slight decrease as compared with last year. It is accounted for by the long wet summer and autumn, making transport of the sick to the hospitals impossible at times through flooded rivers and over bad roads.

The following table shows the number of dispensary and hospital patients in the various districts :—

District.	*Out-patients.*	*In-patients.*
Maseru	14,247	897
Leribe	11,240	432
Berea	7,097	—
Mafeteng	10,636	408
Mohale's Hoek	6,040	309
Quthing	5,921	175
Qacha's Nek	4,348	—
	59,529	2,221

2,148 operations were performed during 1925.

There has been considerable unavoidable delay in completing the hospital at Qacha's Nek, but it is hoped to have it in full working order in 1926.

The revenue collected from hospital and dispensary fees amounted to £2,393 18*s*. 8*d*.

The general health of the territory has been very good. Typhus fever, which has been endemic since 1917, has almost disappeared, only 51 cases with 4 deaths being reported—as compared with 556 cases and 41 deaths in 1924, and 958 cases with 120 deaths in 1923. This is very gratifying and is due to the natives appreciating the cause of the disease and taking all necessary precautions. The epidemic of small-pox in the centre of the country, which was reported last year, was got well in hand. 52 cases with no deaths were recorded in the earlier part of the year. 23,632 persons were vaccinated. Influenza and dysentery were responsible for 589 and 130 cases respectively, and were of mild type.

The free treatment of syphilis has been continued and the number availing themselves of the privilege is increasing every year. Certain European missionaries who live in remote parts of the Territory have been given a supply of the remedies for distribution in these areas and with excellent results.

The sanitary condition of the various Government reserves has been very much improved by the provision of latrines &c. for the use of the native inhabitants.

Outside the reserves it is not possible to do much as yet, except in the way of instruction in simple hygiene when opportunity offers at the dispensaries.

Leper Settlement.

On 31st December, 1925, the numbers of the inmates were 228 male and 233 female : total 461. Except for minor fluctuations throughout the year the population was stationary. Admissions and re-admissions were slightly less in number in 1925, and no particular significance can be attached to the difference. The number of deaths was of the same order. Desertions in 1925 were considerably more numerous, and paradoxical as it may seem, the increase in the number was due to greater prosperity. Most of the desertions occurred immediately after the inmates had been paid for their exceptionally large crop of maize, and it is presumed the less provident went out to spend the money.

It is satisfactory to note that of those previously discharged as cases of arrest of the disease only two, one male and one female, had to be re-admitted as recurrences, and one only, a female, had to be re-admitted on account of lack of proper care outside.

During the year 28 patients were boarded as fit for discharge. Since 1920 the number of patients discharged as arrested cases is 166.

The general health of the institution has been good and there was particular freedom from epidemic disease.

The intensive treatment for leprosy still continues to be rigorously pushed, with more or less gratifying results. Doctor Slack, the Medical Officer of the Settlement, went to India towards the end of the year for the purpose of studying the disease there and at the Calcutta centre for Leprosy Research. Much is hoped from his visit in the way of improved treatment.

The farm produced excellent crops of maize, oat forage, hay, ensilage &c., and the dairy provided 13,680 gallons of milk. Carrots and swedish turnips were sown for the use of the lepers who ate them raw for their vitamin content. These raw vegetables had an excellent anti-scorbutic effect and rendered the purchase of oranges unnecessary. The orchard produced an abundance of fruit of which the lepers received a large share. Their own fruit trees planted round the compounds and in the squares between the compounds, are now bearing well, and, as they are for the most part late bearers, they form a welcome addition to the supply of fruit at a time when that from the orchard is becoming scarce.

R. B. SMITH,
Government Secretary.

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BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1926*.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

Basutoland, which is a native territory in South Africa, is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, and on the south by the Cape Province. Its area is 11,716 square miles. It lies between 28° 35′ and 30° 40′ south latitude, and between 27° and 29° 30′ east longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 ft. to 11,000 ft. above sea-level, and the climate is, on the whole, healthy. The Maluti Mountains in former years were used entirely as cattle posts, but owing to the increase in population the Basuto have found it necessary to migrate there and build villages and cultivate the land, so that to-day the more or less inaccessible area is gradually becoming as thickly populated as the low-lying country to the west. In favourable seasons the Territory produces wheat, mealies, and kafir-corn, also horses, cattle, and sheep; the export of wool for this year amounting to 12,131,574 pounds weight.

In 1818 the first Paramount Chief of Basutoland, Moshesh, gathered together the remnants of various tribes which had been scattered about South Africa during the wars waged by Moselekatse, and thus founded what to-day has become the Basuto nation, consisting of upwards of 540,000 souls.

A series of wars took place, from 1856 onwards, between the Basuto and the inhabitants of the Orange Free State, and it was not until 1868, when Moshesh was hard pressed by the Boers, that he appealed to the British Government for help and the recognition of his people as British subjects. This was carried into effect in March, 1868. In 1871 the Territory was annexed to the Cape Colony, and, after various disturbances, the Government of the Cape, in April, 1880, extended the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878 to Basutoland, which included a clause providing for the general disarmament of the Basuto. The Basuto refused to accept the terms, and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at by which the Act was repealed and certain fines inflicted on the tribe.

* The financial information given in this Report is for the year ended the 31st March, 1926. Other details are for the calendar year 1926.

Although outwardly peace had been restored, there still remained several chiefs who would in no way accept the terms, and it was eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This took effect on the 13th March, 1884. Since that date the Territory has been governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for South Africa.

In 1903, a native National Council of 100 members was formed for the purpose of discussing internal matters, and with a view to acting in a measure as an advisory body to the Resident Commissioner.

General Events of the Year.

There were no faction fights of a serious nature during the year, but considerable friction continues to exist in the Leribe District, due in a measure to Chief Jonathan's great age and inability to attend to disputes amongst his people.

Retirement of Lieut.-Colonel Sir E. C. F. Garraway, K.C.M.G.

During the year Lieut.-Colonel Sir E. C. F. Garraway, K.C.M.G., Resident Commissioner, retired on pension, and he was succeeded by Mr. J. C. R. Sturrock, M.A.

Drought.

The Territory again suffered from severe drought, which occurred during the latter portion of the year.

National Council.

The twenty-first session of the National Council was held from the 9th to the 22nd of October.

The following were the more important matters discussed :—

(1) *Eradication of Noxious Weeds.*—This subject was again fully discussed.

(2) *Administration of Justice in Native Courts.*—Some speakers declared that there was no justice in the Native Courts, while others alleged that there was undue delay in the hearing of cases. The Resident Commissioner informed the Council that he hoped to lay before the members at the next session a draft of Regulations for the better conduct of Native Courts.

(3) *Introduction of Bastard Sheep and Goats into Basutoland.*—Councillors were agreed that much harm was being caused to the flocks in the Territory through the introduction of bastard sheep and goats. On being

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assured that the Government had no intention of interfering with sheep and goats already in the country, the Council agreed that the High Commissioner should be asked to promulgate a law prohibiting the importation of bastard sheep and goats into Basutoland.

(4) *Equine Mange.*—Draft Regulations for the prevention of equine mange were laid before the Council. After some discussion the Regulations were agreed to by the majority of the Council, the only reservation being that the maximum penalty for breach of the Regulations should be reduced from £10 to £5.

(5) *Formation of an Education Fund.*—The Council was unanimous in its desire for better education and in its agreement with the scheme for the formation of an Education Fund. It required an assurance, however, that the money would be spent only on education. The proposal that part of the revenue of the Fund should be raised by the imposition of an education levy resulted in a discussion lasting several days. The Council eventually agreed to the principle of the levy, and the question whether it should be per tax paid or per taxpayer was put to the vote with the result that thirty Councillors were in favour of the levy being per tax and forty-seven in favour of its being per taxpayer.

Legislation.

The following Proclamations were promulgated during the year :—

(1) Motor Vehicle Proclamation, 1926 (No. 7).
(2) Pensions Amendment Proclamation, 1926 (No. 10).
(3) Customs Tariff (Amendment) Proclamation, 1926 (No. 14).
(4) Appropriation Proclamation, 1926 (No. 18).
(5) Amending Pensions Amendment Proclamation, 1926 (No. 26).
(6) Income Tax Proclamation, 1926 (No. 31) ; and
(7) Auctioneers Licence and Auction Dues Amendment Proclamation, 1926 (No. 32).

Financial.

The revenue for the financial year ended the 31st March, 1926, amounted to £281,572, and the expenditure to £268,076, an excess of revenue over expenditure of £13,496.

The balance of assets in excess of liabilities at the 31st March, 1926, was £92,357

The following statements show the revenue and expenditure during the past three financial years: —

REVENUE.

	1923–24.	1924–25.	1925–26.
	£	£	£
Native Tax	134,689	127,531	139,776
Customs and Excise ..	71,043	76,765	84,196
Posts and Telegraphs ..	8,038	8,520	8,428
Licences	7,585	7,928	7,766
Fees of Court or Office ..	784	906	1,084
Judicial Fines	2,009	1,991	3,022
Income Tax	6,773	12,997	13,759
Fees for services rendered	1,366	1,484	1,386
Interest	2,341	1,735	1,819
Wool Export Duty ..	14,128	17,189	15,421
Miscellaneous	3,857	3,962	4,915
	£252,613	£261,008	£281,572

EXPENDITURE.

	1923–24.	1924–25.	1925–26.
	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner ..	13,758	13,692	13,829
District Administration ..	12,670	12,791	13,091
Police	36,189	36,756	37,507
Posts and Telegraphs ..	10,437	10,118	10,458
Administration of Justice	9,806	11,078	11,659
Public Works Department	6,526	5,665	5,616
Public Works Recurrent..	20,990	22,153	23,778
Public Works Extraordinary	3,661	2,383	8,820
Medical	20,575	22,795	21,548
Education	34,813	35,836	40,113
Government Industrial School	2,437	2,429	2,486
Agriculture	21,806	22,927	28,780
Allowances to Chiefs ..	12,448	12,323	11,994
National Council	1,950	2,193	2,037
Leper Settlement ..	20,036	19,077	19,306
Pensions	6,681	6,812	7,599
Miscellaneous	5,656	6,955	9,455
	240,439	245,983	268,076
Expenditure from Surplus Balances	1,230	4,214	—
Total	£241,669	£250,197	£268,076

Income Tax.

The rates of normal tax and super-tax on incomes were imposed by Proclamation No. 23 of 1925. Provision was made therein for an increase from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* in normal tax for each pound of the incomes of Companies, and an increase from £50 to £60 in the abatement allowed to persons in respect of each child.

The collection for the year amounted to £13,759 5*s.* 9*d.*, being an increase of £762 15*s.* 10*d.* on the receipts for the year 1924–25 and an excess of £1,759 5*s.* 9*d.* on the estimate.

This excess was entirely due to additional revenue derived from Companies.

The total collection was made up as follows :—

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Arrear Tax :—		
Normal	101 0 5	
Super	10 5 7	111 6 0
Current Tax :—		
Normal	12,085 17 0	
Super	1,562 2 9	13,647 19 9
		£13,759 5 9

The following table shows the sources from which the taxable incomes were derived, and the amount of tax obtained from each source :—

	£ s. d.		*per cent.*
General Traders	9,964 19 6	or	72·42
Civil Servants	1,264 1 2	,,	9·19
Employed Persons	513 18 3	,,	3·73
Others—including Banks, etc.	1,243 14 9	,,	9·04
Non-residents	772 12 1	,,	5·62
	£13,759 5 9	,,	100

The number of incomes assessed for current tax in the various categories were :—

No.	*Category.* £	*Total of Taxable Incomes.* £
90	500 and under	34,573
51	501— 750	30,620
28	751—1,000	24,379
26	1,001—1,500	30,889
9	1,501—2,000	14,765
7	2,001—4,000	17,609
7	Over 4,000	66,767
218	Total taxable income of persons assessed for current tax	£219,602

Trade.

The following is a return of the imports into, and the exports from, the Territory by general traders during the calendar year 1926, the figures for 1925 being given for purposes of comparison:—

IMPORTS.

	1925.		1926.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£		£
Merchandise	—	733,173	—	593,919
Live stock :—				
Horses, Mules, etc. ..	425	1,021	70	239
Cattle	1,682	5,008	768	2,147
Sheep and Goats	338	364	264	400
Grain :—	*Muids.*		*Muids.*	
Wheat and Wheat-meal ..	3,343	6,458	4,741	8,395
Maize and Maize-meal ..	39,423	32,785	55,892	39,607
Kafir Corn	34,739	27,475	25,256	19,766
Other Produce	—	6,263	—	541
Totals	—	812,547	—	665,014

EXPORTS.

	1925.		1926.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£		£
Live stock :—				
Horses, Mules, etc. ..	93	963	37	264
Cattle	877	4,165	2,848	12,396
Sheep and Goats ..	1,670	1,515	453	390
Grain :—	*Muids.*		*Muids.*	
Wheat and Wheat-meal	83,602	105,558	103,402	111,694
Maize and Maize-meal	71,061	34,553	5,561	3,092
Kafir Corn	3,249	2,018	2,325	2,277
Oats	413	135	98	40
Barley	44	25	45	24
Beans and Peas ..	15,771	6,549	2,031	1,560
Wool and Mohair :—	*lb.*		*lb.*	
Wool	11,721,411	469,315	12,131,574	427,047
Mohair	1,958,877	119,285	2,156,603	121,098
Hides and Skins :—				
Hides	204,408	6,067	350,084	10,275
Skins	116,347	2,802	202,786	5,229
Miscellaneous	—	3,156	—	1,564
Totals	—	£756,106	—	£696,950

OTHER STATISTICS.

Government imports during the year amounted to £45,061, as compared with £38,431 in 1925.

The total exports of wool and mohair during the year amounted to 16,655,056 lb. of which 14,288,177 lb. were exported by general traders.

Education.

The average attendance of pupils in schools and institutions is now 33,074, while the number of scholars on the roll is 44,936.

The following table shows the average attendance of pupils during the last ten years :—

Table I.

Year.	*Average Attendance.*	*Increase.*	*Decrease.*
1917	20,760	1,264	—
1918	21,160	391	—
1919	22,556	1,396	—
1920	23,479	932	—
1921	22,586	—	893
1922	23,424	838	—
1923	26,124	2,700	—
1924	29,267	3,143	—
1925	30,005	738	—
1926	33,074	3,069	—

From this table it will be seen that another large increase of 3,069 in the average attendance has taken place. The total increase during the last four years has been nearly 10,000.

Table II.

Grants to Missions for Schools and Institutions for the year ending 31st March, 1926.

	£	s.	d.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society..	22,690	0	0
Roman Catholic Mission	6,989	0	0
Church of England Mission ..	3,563	10	0
	£33,242	10	0

Table III.

Elementary Schools according to Size and Denomination.

Mission.	Over 200	150 to 200	100 to 150	70 to 100	60 to 70	45 to 60	25 to 45	20 to 25	Under 20	Total.
P.E.M.S.	9	20	45	79	27	63	81	23	12	359
Roman Catholic	1	8	10	12	13	19	34	8	7	112
Church of England	1	1	5	12	7	11	14	5	4	60
Total	11	29	60	103	47	93	129	36	23	531
	+8	+14	+10	+12	+13	+3	−35	−9	−7	+9

In September, 1926, there were 531 Government-aided schools, as against 522 in September, 1925. Eight more schools have reached an average attendance of over 200, while the total number of schools whose average attendance is under 20 is now reduced to 23, as against 30 for last year.

The increases and decreases as compared with 1925 are given under each column. Practically speaking, all schools have increased in size.

Table IV.

Enrolment of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	Number of pupils on Roll, September, 1925.			Number of pupils on Roll, September, 1926.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society.	9,660	19,793	29,453	10,553	20,805	31,358
Roman Catholic ..	1,990	6,008	7,998	2,074	6,329	8,403
Church of England ..	1,458	2,943	4,401	1,494	2,997	4,491
Total	13,108	28,744	41,852	14,121	30,131	44,252

The increase is 2,400. Despite the general belief of the Basuto that it is more important to educate boys than girls, every year the figures show that there are more girls than boys in the schools. From the above figures, two-thirds of the children are girls and only one-third boys.

The percentage of boys to girls for the last three years is as follows :—

Year.	*Boys.*	*Girls.*
1924	32 per cent.	68 per cent.
1925	31 ,,	69 ,,
1926	32 ,,	68 ,,

Table V.

Enrolment of Pupils in Institutions.

Institution.	Mission.	No. of pupils on Roll, September, 1925.			No. of pupils on Roll, September, 1926.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Morija	Paris Evangelical Mission Society	120	—	120	139	—	139
Th. Morena ..	,,	—	27	27	—	38	38
Cana	,,	—	15	15	—	25	25
Leloaleng ..	,,	51	—	51	53	—	53
Roma	Roman Catholic	136	243	379	113	248	361
Masit	Church of England	23	—	23	26	—	26
Maseru	Church of England	—	38	38	—	37	37
Total ..	—	330	323	653	331	348	679

The increase is 26. This is chiefly due to the new school at Cana. The number of pupils at the other institutions remains much the same as in previous years.

Many young Basuto go to schools and institutions in the Union, but it is impossible to estimate the number.

Table VI.

Average Attendance of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	Year ending September, 1925.			Year ending September, 1926.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society.	6,478	13,985	20,463	7,258	15,477	22,735
Roman Catholic ..	1,412	4,449	5,861	1,496	4,956	6,452
Church of England ..	956	2,072	3,028	1,032	2,220	3,252
Total	8,846	20,506	29,352	9,786	22,653	32,439

This shows an increase of 3,087.

Percentage average attendance in Schools :—

Year.	*Boys.*	*Girls.*
1924	31 per cent.	69 per cent.
1925	30 ,,	70 ,,
1926	30 ,,	70 ,,

The total average attendance in elementary schools is 32,439, and the enrolment is 44,252. This is a slight improvement on last year, being approximately 73 per cent. compared with 70 per cent. in 1925.

GENERAL.

The average attendance has increased from 23,000 in 1922 to 33,000 in 1926. This is phenomenal and means that many schools are now overcrowded, and it will be a question for the near future, if not for the immediate present, to provide more accommodation. Fortunately, in a climate like that of Basutoland, classes can often be held in the open air, and this plan is often resorted to in order to lessen congestion.

On the whole, and in spite of many disadvantages, fair progress is being made in elementary education. The three " Rs " are fairly well taught and pupils who reach Grades IV and V can all write and read Sesuto and do simple sums. But with better material, furniture, and buildings there would be more efficient work done in the schools. Teachers and children are apt to be discouraged when they have to work in such uncongenial surroundings as exist in certain schools.

European Schools.

In December, 1926, there were 114 pupils in the eight schools for European children, being a decrease of ten pupils as compared with last year's figures.

Veterinary.

Anthrax.

During the year there were forty outbreaks of anthrax, an increase of nineteen.

The year 1926 was a remarkably dry one and the live stock suffered very serious privation, especially in the midlands and southern portion of the Territory, and it is quite possible that the shortage of pasture may be a contributing factor to the ingestion of the anthrax spores in the ground.

During the year, 35,446 animals were inoculated, with very good results.

Equine Mange.

This again assumed serious proportions, and demonstrated how difficult the position was without the support of proper regulations.

At the National Council held in September this disease was fully discussed together with the regulations which have now come into force.

With the advent of the mange law the co-operation of all Assistant Commissioners and Police Officers was invited. This was willingly given. Pitsos were held throughout the Territory, explaining the law to the natives and asking them to assist, and a big effort is now being made to stamp out this widespread disease.

Dressing depots have been organised at all dipping tanks, and in some cases chiefs have offered to assist in the treatment. . The offer has been gladly accepted.

There is now every hope of finally eradicating this disease, and the tendency for owners with badly infected horses to abandon them in the mountains is now likely to cease.

The mountain areas without dipping tanks or trading stations present the greatest difficulty now, but every effort is being made to get at the people in these areas, and every facility is being given horse-owners to treat their animals.

During the year, 15,816 equines were treated.

Scab.

It is gratifying to be able to report that good progress has been made in the campaign against scab, and some very valuable lessons have been learned.

After careful consideration it was decided to cancel simultaneous dipping in 39 protected areas and substitute for it a thorough tank inspection. It is thought that results fully justify this policy.

During the early summer 390,086 sheep and goats were inspected in these areas, and 99 sheep and goats were found infected with scab. This was very satisfactory and clearly demonstrated the great progress which has been made since the scab campaign was inaugurated.

Experience has shown that one of the most difficult matters in the eradication of scab is a correct diagnosis, and this is especially so in this Territory where bi-annual clipping takes place. To cure scab effectually a correct diagnosis must be made, and experience shows that an ordinary optical inspection of a flock in a kraal or in the veldt may be very misleading and badly scab-infected sheep pass undetected.

In addition to those subjected to a tank inspection, 2,017,273 sheep and goats were dipped, and the mortality for which compensation was paid was 121. This death-rate is remarkably low, in view of the fact that an arsenical dip is employed, and reflects great credit on the staff responsible and justifies the trouble which has been taken to study and reduce mortality.

A great effort has been made to complete the tank erection on the south-eastern border. Unfortunately, however, it has not been possible to complete all the tanks necessary to ensure this. The balance, however, are in process of erection.

Despite the absence of these tanks there is every reason to believe that the scab outlook on the eastern border has improved tremendously, and it is hoped in the near future to reduce the scab in this part of the Territory.

The most serious aspect of the scab campaign is the financial one. This, with the extension of the areas of dipping, is inevitable, and it is quite apparent that it will not be possible to give all owners dipping-tank facilities on the revenue received from the ¼*d.* per lb. wool tax. It would be a calamity to bring the scab work to a standstill now, and unless the badly-infected centres in the mountains, from which sheep are constantly being moved, are cleared up it will be impossible to keep clean the areas in which scab has been eradicated.

Owing to shortage of money the scheme for building twenty new tanks had to be curtailed, and during the year only twelve tanks were erected.

Owing to the extension of tanks to the mountain areas, it was found necessary to appoint another Native Scab Inspector in the Maseru District, and it is quite apparent that more of these will be required in the near future if finances permit of the building of more tanks.

During the year there were many requests and complaints from sheep-owners respecting the absence of dipping facilities, and it is gratifying to observe how most sheep-owners in the Territory to-day recognise what benefit the dipping operations have on the health and welfare of their flocks.

Wool Industry.

For some time there has been evidence that the quality of the wool produced in Basutoland is on the decline, and with the slump in prices this matter has been thoroughly investigated both by the Veterinary Department and the trading community.

Investigations showed that the undue presence of " kemp " in the wool was one of the main factors in this deterioration. This is due to the careless methods of breeding by the sheep-owners in allowing bastard or Persian rams to mix with their Merino ewes.

The matter was discussed at the last session of the National Council, and a big campaign has now been launched to try and educate the sheep-owner in this important matter.

Strangles.

Strangles has been less prevalent this year ; 69 cases were inoculated and treated.

Biliary Fever.

Biliary fever has also been less prevalent, 26 cases having been treated.

Contagious Abortion.

This disease was diagnosed in a small herd at Maseru, and treated. It is hoped that there will not be a further spread of this irksome disease.

Stud.

The year 1926 has without doubt been the worst season for stud work experienced over many years. Drought has been the dominating factor throughout the season. This resulted in a serious shortage of green grass, and many mares behaved in quite an unusual manner regarding their oestral cycles.

Some mares after foaling failed to come into oestrum at all. Many mares missed the 9th day of oestrum after foaling, and many, after being served, and refusing the usual trial periods, leading one to believe they were pregnant, returned in oestrum from 40 to 60 days after the last service. The influence of climatic conditions on the oestral cycle in the mare is remarkable and almost incredible.

As the result of last year's season, 74 mares proved in foal out of 169 mares covered. During the season, 126 mares were covered.

General.

During the year, 2,486 professional visits and attendances were paid by the Principal Veterinary Officer.

Agriculture.

The grant for Agriculture and Tree-planting was £1,200.

Locust Destruction.

There were no fresh outbreaks of *voetgangers* during the year and no flying locusts were observed in Basutoland. There was a fairly serious invasion of " the Elegant Grasshopper " in gardens and lands. This is attributed to the drought and the lack of natural food on the veldt.

Agricultural Shows.

Agricultural Shows were held at Maseru and Quthing.

Donga Prevention.

Owing to the severe drought the trees in many of the dongas died and others had to be planted. In consequence it was not found possible to undertake much fresh work. A number of English elms were planted in dongas as an experiment.

Tree-Planting.

At the close of the year there were some 243,500 trees in the various Government Nurseries. During the year, 57,000 trees were issued, and 8,000 were planted on the various Reserves.

Agricultural Associations.

Agricultural Associations have been started at Roma, Mokema, and Teyateyaneng and appear to be flourishing. The members are keen and progressive. They have been visited on several occasions by the Agricultural Officer, who has given lectures and practical demonstrations.

Seed Wheat Bounty.

With a view to improving the wheat in the country the Government allotted a sum of £2,000 as a bounty on seed wheat. Owing to the dry autumn the whole of this amount was not expended. The sum of £156 was expended on local seed and £537 on imported seed.

There is no doubt that the bounty has done a great deal towards improving the type of wheat grown in the Territory.

Agricultural Demonstration.

The severe drought greatly handicapped demonstration work during the year, but, in spite of this, satisfactory progress has been made. The natives throughout the Territory are taking the keenest interest in the demonstrations.

Public Works.

Roads.

The condition of the main roads has been kept up and a considerable number of minor culverts have been put in.

The condition of by-roads has shown much improvement.

It has not been possible to make much advance in constructional work on the main roads and by-roads in the Territory.

BUILDINGS.

Leribe.—Additional huts for Native Police have been built, and an addition of two cells has been made to the gaol.

Teyateyaneng.—New Government Offices have been erected and will shortly be ready for occupation.

Maseru.—New married quarters for a European clerk have been completed.

Mafeteng.—An addition of two cells has been made to the gaol, and additional Police hutting is in course of construction.

Mohale's Hoek.—A new Government Store has been built, and certain additions to the Postmaster's house have been made.

Qacha's Nek.—A new Court Room has been built, and a Nurses' Home and new Police Stables are in course of construction.

WATER-WORKS.

Leribe.—Additional springs have been brought in through half a mile of piping, bringing the total supply for the camp up to 20,000 gallons per day.

Mohale's Hoek.—The camp water-supply has been increased by a new bore-hole with a windmill pump.

Gaols and Crime.

There are seven gaols and four lock-ups in the Territory, and during the year, 2,494 prisoners passed through them, as compared with 2,216 during the year 1925.

The number of convictions for contravention of the liquor laws in 1926 was 40, as compared with 48 for the previous year.

Convictions for offences against property numbered 583, as compared with 439 in 1925.

Movement of Inhabitants.

The following figures give the number of passes issued to natives to leave the Territory during the year, as compared with the figures for the year 1925 :—

	Labour.	*Visiting and Miscellaneous.*	*Total.*
1925	70,048	29,392	99,440
1926	96,265	38,905	135,170

Post Office.

The net postal, telegraph, and telephone revenue amounted to £8,428, as compared with £8,520 for the year 1924–25.

The expenditure amounted to £10,458, as compared with £10,118 for 1924–25.

The number of deposits in, and withdrawals from, the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years is shown in the following table :—

	Deposits.	*Withdrawals.*
1924–25 =	1,122, value £6,229.	503, value £4,715.
1925–26 =	1,752, value £8,052.	615, value £7,736.

The following comparative table shows the number and value of money and postal orders issued and paid during the last two years :—

	Issued.	*Paid.*
1924–25 =	26,373, value £24,131.	33,148, value £42,457.
1925–26 =	29,154, value £26,971.	34,172, value £38,513.

Medical.

During the year, 2,287 patients were treated in the hospitals—showing an increase of 66 over the numbers of the previous year. The deaths numbered 123 and the operations performed totalled 2,250.

In the dispensaries 61,802 patients received treatment, being an increase of 2,273 over the figures of 1925.

The number of vaccinations performed was 22,253, and the revenue received from hospital and out-patient fees amounted to £2,335 10*s.* 8*d.*

The following table shows the above statistics arranged according to districts :—

District.	*In-Patients.*	*Out-Patients.*	*Vaccinations.*	*Revenue.* £	*s.*	*d.*
Maseru ..	937	14,739	2,095	785	5	0
Leribe ..	450	12,571	283	512	15	0
Mafeteng ..	416	11,094	7,131	327	11	3
Mohale's Hoek	256	6,079	5,258	250	17	3
Quthing ..	207	6,545	—	196	12	3
Qacha's Nek ..	21	3,321	39	90	17	11
Teyateyaneng	—	6,927	7,197	171	12	0
Mokhotlong ..	—	526	350	—		
Totals..	2,287	61,802	22,353	£2,335	10	8

There is little noteworthy to report as regards the health of the Territory. It has been very good on the whole. There were no serious outbreaks of epidemic disease. Influenza was more prevalent than in 1925 and was responsible for 985 cases, but with no deaths. There were two sporadic outbreaks of smallpox, 32 cases occurring with 5 deaths, and 5 cases of cerebro-spinal-meningitis were reported with one death. Fevers of the enteric group were few in number ; only 70 were reported, and the disease was of a mild type.

The majority of the patients who come to the hospitals do so for surgical aid. For medical treatment they prefer dispensary treatment, after which they return to their homes. The bulk of

the dispensary patients seek treatment for gastro-intestinal, venereal, respiratory, genito-urinary, and skin diseases.

The free treatment of syphilis continues, and more patients are coming every year to avail themselves of this privilege.

The health of the police and prisoners was good, and the condition of the gaols called for only a few slight improvements.

Sanitation to any extent is only possible in the Government Reserves. Maseru is the only proclaimed sanitary area, but it is hoped to bring in Leribe during next year.

Plague being endemic in the neighbouring parts of the Union, three rodent destruction gangs have been constantly employed in the Maseru, Leribe, and Mafeteng Districts. Considerable progress has been made in the destruction of veldt rodents, but in the townships the position is not so satisfactory on account of most buildings not being rat-proof. Every endeavour is being made to cope with the pest and get it under control.

Leper Settlement.

No important changes in the administration of the Leper Asylum have taken place during the year 1926.

There has been a slight increase in the population, as will be seen from the following population statistics :—

	At 31st December, 1925.	*At 31st December, 1926.*	*Increase.*
Males ..	228	247	19
Females ..	233	247	14
	461	494	33

The following are details of the movements of the population throughout the years 1925 and 1926, the former being given for the purpose of comparison :—

1925.

	Admissions.	*Re-admissions.*	*Deaths.*	*Desertions.*	*Discharge.*
Males ..	45	4	31	7	7
Females ..	37	4	21	5	19
Totals ..	82	8	52	12	26

1926.

	Admissions.	*Re-admissions.*	*Deaths.*	*Desertions.*	*Discharge.*
Males ..	43	5	18	7	4
Females ..	41	2	24	1	4
Totals ..	84	7	42	8	8

The increase in the population is accounted for almost entirely by diminutions in the numbers of deaths, desertions, and discharges. It is satisfactory to note that, notwithstanding a more serious incidence of scurvy in 1926 than in the previous year, the number of deaths from all causes was ten less than in 1925. There is also a satisfactory diminution in the number of desertions.

Under the heading "re-admissions," are included only those patients re-admitted after desertion. Patients discharged as arrested cases and afterwards admitted are classed as "admitted" simply because they are given new numbers, their old numbers having been assigned to others admitted after the discharge of the former. In the great majority of cases of admissions after discharge it is not on account of a recurrence of leprosy, but on account of permanent disabilities due to the effects of leprosy in the past.

The lining of three huts with bricks, begun before the end of last financial year, has been completed. Thirty thousand bricks are now being made by a contractor, and the lining of three more huts will be begun at an early date. The same contractor is now engaged in rebuilding the School and two huts for the school children on a site to the west of the space between the two Compounds, the material of these buildings having been removed thither from the Compounds. These buildings will be brick-lined.

A large stone and cement platform has been built at the Farm Steading, for the support of eight cylindrical tanks holding 95 bags of grain each.

The borehole at the western boundary of the farm has continued to give a good supply of water since it was repaired in October, 1925; it shows no sign of exhaustion after six hours' pumping.

Owing to drought and the ravages of cut worm the farm and leper lands yielded a very poor crop. The milk supply, however, was a good one, and sufficient fodder was grown to feed the stock and save the expense of buying outside.

R. B. SMITH,

Government Secretary

Basutoland.

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BASUTOLAND

REPORT FOR 1927

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BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1927.*

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PREFATORY NOTE.

History and Geography.

Basutoland, which is a native territory in South Africa, is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, and on the south by the Cape Province. Its area is 11,716 square miles. It lies between 28° 35′ and 30° 40′ south latitude, and between 27° and 29° 30′ east longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 feet to 11,000 feet above sea-level, and the climate is, on the whole, healthy. The Maluti Mountains in former years were used entirely as cattle posts, but owing to the increase in population the Basuto have found it necessary to migrate there and build villages and cultivate the land, so that to-day the more or less inaccessible area is gradually becoming as thickly populated as the low-lying country to the west. In favourable seasons the Territory produces wheat, maize, and kaffir-corn, also

* The financial information given in this Report is for the year ended the 31st March, 1927. Other details are for the calendar year 1927.

horses, cattle, and sheep; the export of wool for this year amounting to 12,906,789 pounds weight.

In 1818 the first Paramount Chief of Basutoland, Moshesh, gathered together the remnants of various tribes which had been scattered about South Africa during the wars waged by Moselekatse, and thus founded what to-day has become the Basuto nation, consisting of upwards of 540,000 souls.

A series of wars took place, from 1856 onwards, between the Basuto and the inhabitants of the Orange Free state, and it was not until 1868, when Moshesh was hard pressed by the Boers, that he appealed to the British Government for help and the recognition of his people as British subjects. This was carried into effect in March, 1868. In 1871 the Territory was annexed to the Cape Colony, and, after various disturbances, the Government of the Cape, in April, 1880, extended the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878 to Basutoland, which included a clause providing for the general disarmament of the Basuto. The Basuto refused to accept the terms, and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at by which the Act was repealed and certain fines inflicted on the tribe.

Although outwardly peace has been restored, there still remained several chiefs who would in no way accept the terms, and it was eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This took effect on the 13th March, 1884. Since that date the Territory has been governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for South Africa.

The principal languages are English and Sesuto.

The coin in circulation in the Territory is mainly South African, but late South African Republic coins are occasionally met with. Central Reserve Bank notes are brought into the Territory, but the local bank only re-issues the notes of Joint Stock Banks. Gold coin is unlimited, but the demand is practically negligible. £17,000 in gold and £2,000 in silver coin was exported during the year by the Maseru Branch of the Standard Bank of South Africa, Ltd.

The amount of coin in circulation at the end of 1927 was between £40,000 and £50,000, and notes between £100,000 and £125,000.

The Imperial Coinage Act, 1920, is in force in the Territory (High Commissioner's Notice No. 63 of 1920).

The weights and measures in use in Basutoland are the British Imperial, but the Colonial ton of 2,000 lb. is also used.

1.—GENERAL.

No serious faction fights occurred during the year. Friction continues to exist in the Leribe District.

Basutoland Council.

The twenty-second session of the Basutoland Council was held from the 8th to the 15th October, 1927. The following were the more important matters discussed :—

(1) Administration of justice in Native Courts.

(2) Increase of export duty on wool and mohair from ¼d. per lb. to ½d. per lb.

(3) Prohibition of the introduction of Persian and bastard sheep into the Territory.

(4) Soil erosion—ploughing up of mountain slopes.

(5) Education.

(6) Basutoland Government Industrial School.

(7) Stock theft.

2.—FINANCE.

The revenue for the financial year ended the 31st March, 1927, amounted to £274,404 and the expenditure to £272,627, an excess of revenue over expenditure of £1,777.

The balance of assets in excess of liabilities at the 31st March, 1927, was £94,135.

The following statements show the revenue and expenditure during the past five financial years :—

REVENUE.

	1922–23.	*1923–24.*	*1924–25.*	*1925–26.*	*1926–27.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Native Tax	121,234	134,689	127,532	139,776	132,072
Customs and Excise ...	62,011	71,043	76,765	84,196	87,352
Posts and Telegraphs...	7,522	8,038	8,520	8,428	7,648
Licences	7,097	7,585	7,928	7,766	8,758
Fees of Court or Office	814	784	906	1,084	933
Judicial Fines ...	1,305	2,009	1,991	3,022	1,911
Income Tax	3,755	6,773	12,996	13,759	10,784
Fees for services rendered.	2,605	1,366	1,484	1,386	1,278
Interest	2,550	2,341	1,735	1,819	2,158
Wool Export Duty ...	—	14,128	17,189	15,421	17,141
Miscellaneous	3,645	3,857	3,962	4,915	4,369
Totals	£212,538	£252,613	£261,008	£281,572	£274,404

EXPENDITURE.

	1922-23.	*1923-24.*	*1924-25.*	*1925-26.*	*1926-27.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner	12,554	13,758	13,692	13,829	13,811
District Administration	12,934	12,670	12,790	13,091	13,690
Police	35,647	36,189	36,756	37,507	39,164
Posts and Telegraphs	10,043	10,437	10,118	10,458	11,676
Administration of Justice	9,116	9,806	11,078	11,659	11,194
Public Works Department	5,811	6,526	5,665	5,616	5,218
Public Works Recurrent	20,371	20,990	22,153	23,778	25,669
Public Works Extraordinary	2,335	3,661	2,383	8,820	6,872
Medical	20,443	20,575	22,795	21,548	22,617
Education	34,681	34,813	35,836	40,113	41,412
Government Industrial School	2,323	2,437	2,429	2,486	2,508
Audit	733	(*a*)	(*a*)	(*a*)	(*a*)
Agriculture	9,984	21,806 (*b*)	22,927 (*b*)	28,780 (*b*)	27,659 (*b*)
Allowances to Chiefs	11,290	12,448	12,324	11,994	11,691
National Council ...	1,830	1,950	2,193	2,037	1,909
Leper Settlement ...	20,845	20,036	19,077	19,306	19,401
Pensions	5,259	6,681	6,812	7,599	10,030
Miscellaneous	4,868	5,656	6,955	9,455	6,076
Expenditure from Surplus Balances.	3,480	1,230	4,214	—	2,030
Totals	£224,547	£241,669	£250,197	£268,076	£272,627

(*a*) Provided for under "Resident Commissioner."
(*b*) Includes cost of measures taken for eradication of scab.

Income Tax.

The rates of normal and super tax remained the same as during the preceding financial year, and were imposed by the Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1925. The Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1926, amended the Income Tax Proclamation, 1920, as amended, in so far as the abatement allowable in the case of a taxpayer who was (1) married or (2) a widower or (3) divorced, but who, in the case of (2) and (3) maintained during any portion of the tax year a child of his own or a step-child who was, or would have been had he lived, under 18 years of age. This abatement was increased from £300 to £400 a year. The total collection of Income Tax was made up as follows :—

	£
Arrear Normal Tax	202
Current Tax—	
Normal Tax	9,013
Super Tax	1,569
Total	£10,784

The following table shows the sources from which taxable incomes were derived and the amount of tax paid from each source :—

	£
General Traders	6,815
Civil Servants	1,174
Employed persons	676
Others, including Bank	549
Non-residents	1,570
Total	£10,784

The number of incomes assessed for current tax in the various categories were :—

Number.	*Category.*	*Total of Taxable Incomes.*
		£
50	£500 and under	18,853
50	£501 to £750	31,266
23	£751 to £1.000	19,720
30	£1,001 to £1,500	34,498
10	£1,501 to £2.000	16,906
7	£2,001 to £4,000	16,562
6	Over £4,000	48,149
176	Total Taxable income of persons assessed for current tax.	£185,954

3.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

Locust Destruction.—There were no fresh outbreaks of *voetgangers* during the year and no flying locusts were observed in Basutoland. There was an exceptionally bad outbreak of " the Elegant Grasshopper " on the Maseru Reserve These insects were responsible for a great deal of damage to gardens and to native crops on the Reserve. A campaign against these insects was carried on with prison labour and native school children.

Agricultural Shows.—An amount of £500 was provided for Agricultural Shows which were held at Leribe, Teyateyaneng, Maseru, Quthing, and Qacha's Nek. Whilst the shows were, on the whole, a success, the attendance was not as good as usual. Exhibits by the Agricultural Demonstrators at Maseru and Quthing proved a source of great interest to the natives attending the Shows at these places.

Tree-planting and Donga Prevention.—The Vote for tree-planting and donga prevention was £1,200. At the close of the year there were some 357,650 trees in the various Government Nurseries. During the year, 61,155 trees were issued and 4,707 planted on the various Reserves.

Seed Wheat Bounty.—The sum of £432 was set aside as a bounty on seed wheat. The bounty was confined to imported seed.

Agricultural Demonstrators.—There are now eleven demonstrators employed in various parts of the Territory. Great interest continues to be taken by the natives in the demonstrations and there is now evidence that the natives are beginning to realize the benefits of improved agriculture and to act on the advice given them by the Demonstrators.

General.—The maize and kaffir-corn crops were particularly good in the northern districts. In the midlands the crops were fair, and in the southern districts bad. The wheat crop in the north of Basutoland was very good, and in other parts of the Territory fair.

Forestry, Fisheries, and Mining.

There are no natural forests in Basutoland and no fisheries. No mining operations are carried on

4.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The following is a return of the imports into, and the exports from, the Territory by general traders during the calendar year 1927, the figures for 1926 being given for purposes of comparison :—

IMPORTS.

—	*1926.*		*1927.*	
	No.	*Value.*	*No.*	*Value.*
		£		£
Merchandise	—	593,5.9	—	780,470
Livestock—				
Horses, Mules, &c.	70	239	127	490
Cattle	768	2,147	2,747	6,947
Sheep and Goats	264	400	598	1,059
Grain—	Muids.		Muids.	
Wheat and Wheat-meal ...	4,741	8,395	5,925	9,506
Maize and Maize-meal	55,892	39,607	46,602	34,155
Kaffir-corn	25,256	19,766	8,452	9,631
Other Produce	—	541	—	635
Totals		£665,914		£842,893

EXPORTS.

	1926.		1927.	
	No.	*Value.*	*No.*	*Value.*
Livestock—		£		£
Horses, Mules, etc.	37	264	21	95
Cattle	2,848	12,396	1,981	9,620
Sheep and Goats	453	390	867	569
Grain—	*Muids.*		*Muids.*	
Wheat and Wheat-meal ...	103,402	111,694	103,568	115,455
Maize and Maize-meal	5,561	3,092	37,512	17,663
Kaffir Corn	2,325	2,277	22,062	20,020
Oats	98	40	55	23
Barley	45	24	67	35
Beans and Peas	2,031	1,560	3,458	3,521
Wool and Mohair—	*Lb.*		*Lb.*	
Wool	12,131,574	427,047	12,906,789	508,687
Mohair	2,156,603	121,098	2,132,907	139,226
Hides and Skins—				
Hides	350,084	10,275	492,626	18,289
Skins	202,786	5,229	217,351	5,356
Miscellaneous	—	1,564	—	538
Totals		£696,950		£839,097

OTHER STATISTICS.

Government imports during the year amounted to £51,562, as compared with £45,061 in 1926.

The total exports of wool and mohair during the year amounted to 16,130,144 lb., of which 15,039,696 lb. were exported by general traders.

General.

All imports by traders are made through wholesale houses in the Union of South Africa, and all exports are to the Union of South Africa. It is therefore impossible to give the origin of goods imported or the ultimate destination of goods exported.

With the exception of fuel, soap, motor oil and petrol, which are purchased in the Union, all Government imports are made through the Crown Agents for the Colonies, London.

5.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Railways.

There is only a small branch line from Marseilles (on the Bloemfontein-Natal main line) to Maseru, and only one mile of this is in Basutoland.

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Roads.

During the year the organisation for the maintenance of roads, which previously had been sub-divided according to districts under the Assistant Commissioners and the Public Works Department, was handed over to the Public Works Department and the Assistant Engineer placed in sole charge.

An exception to this was made in the case of the Qacha's Nek District, which was considered too inaccessible to be controlled by the Assistant Engineer whose Headquarters are in Maseru.

The reorganisation included the replacement of four Road Overseers by two men having more suitable qualifications, who were provided with motor transport; and the territory on the west of the mountains was divided into two road districts, north and south. In addition, provision was made for the employment of four native overseers to supervise the gangs under the direction of the two Inspectors of Roads.

A schedule of roads has been prepared, in which each road is placed in a class A, B, or C according to its importance, and various standards of width and degree of passability were laid down.

The reorganised control has been in operation for the latter half of the year, during which abnormally heavy rains have kept all gangs busy in making repairs, so that, although it can be reported that the organization is working efficiently, it is too early to report definite improvement.

During the year work was started on a much-needed bridge across the Telle River on the Quthing-Cape Province border. This bridge is being built by the Public Works Department of the Union of South Africa, the Administration of Basutoland bearing half the cost.

Postal.

All districts in Basutoland are linked up with Maseru by telegraph and telephone lines with the exception of Qacha's Nek, which is connected by telegraph and telephone with Matatiele in East Griqualand. The systems are owned by the Basutoland Government. Both telegraph and telephones are used by the general public and public telephone call offices are attached to each Post Office.

There are nine telegraph offices in the territory and 154¾ miles of telegraph wire. During 1927, telegraph messages numbering 24,726 were dealt with.

There are nine central telephone offices with 123 telephones in service. The length of local exchange telephone wire is 75¾ miles and long-distance wire 486½ miles.

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The net postal, telegraph, and telephone revenue for the year ended the 31st March, 1927, amounted to £7,648, as compared with £8,428 for the year 1925-6.

The expenditure amounted to £11,676, as compared with £10,458 for 1925-26.

The following table shows the number of deposits in, and withdrawals from, the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years :—

	Deposits.	*Withdrawals.*
1925-26 ...	1,752, value £8,052.	615, value £7,736.
1926-27 ...	1,587, value £6,925.	923, value £7,404.

The following comparative table shows the number and value of money and postal orders issued and paid during the past two years :—

	Issued.	*Paid.*
1925-26 ...	29,154, value £26,971	34,172, value £38,513.
1926-27 ...	32,225, value £28,611	65,457, value £74,003.

6.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

During the year under review 3,185 crimes were reported or known to the police, the number of persons proceeded against being 2,456. Convictions in magisterial courts numbered 2,080 and in the Resident Commissioner's Court 95, as compared with 1,946 and 166 respectively in 1926.

The following table shows the number of convictions for various crimes and offences during the last four years :—

	1924.	*1925.*	*1926.*	*1927.*
IN MAGISTERIAL COURTS :—				
1. Offences against the person	258	125	97	287
2. Offences against property	137	327	244	272
3. Offences against the liquor laws ...	76	48	52	37
4. Other Crimes	951	1,446	1,409	1,484
IN THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER'S COURT :—				
1. Murder	6	4	6	1
2. Culpable Homicide	26	18	38	24
3. Attempted murder	—	—	—	1
4. Rape	—	2	2	—
5. Unnatural crime	—	1	—	—
6. Other offences against the person ...	11	13	11	4
7. Offences against property with violence to the person.	33	84	298	48
8. Other offences against property ...	—	28	41	15
9. Other crimes	4	1	1	—

Police.

The Police force consists of native non-commissioned officers and men under European officers.

Prisons.

There are seven gaols and three lock-ups in the Territory, and, during the year, 2,401 prisoners passed through them, as compared with 2,494 in 1926.

7.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Buildings.

All the works carried out during the year were of minor importance.

Water Works.

Elevated tanks to hold a supply of 2,400 gallons of water have been erected at Maseru.

A new scheme for increasing the water supply at Qacha's Nek was commenced and four miles of 2-inch piping have been laid. The remaining three miles of piping will be laid next year. It is estimated that the new scheme will augment the water supply by 15,000 gallons per diem.

8.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

During the year, 2,593 patients were treated in the various hospitals of the Territory—showing an increase of 306 over the number for the previous year. There were 148 deaths. Of the hospital patients, 90 were Europeans, the majority of whom came for surgical assistance.

After considerable delay, the Qacha's Nek hospital was opened towards the end of the year, and the number of patients received into it, in a short time, showed how badly needed it was in that remote district.

The dispensaries continue to do most excellent work and the yearly increase of patients continues. During the year, 63,061 patients received treatment, being an increase of 1,259 over the number for 1926.

21,870 persons were vaccinated, and the revenue collected in hospital and dispensary fees was £2,438 5s.

The following table gives the above statistics arranged according to district :—

District.	*In-patients.*	*Out-patients.*	*Vaccinations.*	*Revenue.* £ s. d.
Maseru ...	968	13,275	--	639 0 3
Leribe	483	12,695	3,763	534 17 6
Mafeteng ...	500	10,115	9,109	373 2 0
Mohale's Hoek...	332	7,350	7,061	280 6 3
Quthing ...	234	9,130	1,200	309 7 9
Qacha's Nek ...	69	3,231	—	82 7 6
Teyateyaneng ...	7	7,031	737	219 3 9
Mokhotlong ...	—	234	—	— — —
Totals ...	2,593	63,061	21,870	£2,438 5 0

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The health of the Territory, on the whole, was fairly good, and there is little of interest to record. The rainfall was less than usual and the winter was comparatively mild. There was no serious outbreak of epidemic disease. The following cases were reported: influenza 663, no deaths; pneumonia 216, with 8 deaths; bacillary dysentery 122, with 5 deaths; smallpox 28, 5 deaths; typhus 88, with 13 deaths; cerebrospinal meningitis 3, with 1 death. Fevers of the enteric group were more numerous than usual; 200 cases were seen, with 8 deaths. There were limited outbreaks of diphtheria in two districts, but prompt measures by the Medical Officers prevented a general spread. Sporadic outbreaks of measles, whooping cough, mumps, and chicken-pox were reported from all the districts.

The dispensaries, as usual, had their full quota of patients seeking relief from venereal, gastro-intestinal, respiratory, genito-urinary, and skin diseases.

The health of the police and prisoners was good and the condition of the gaols was found satisfactory.

The rodent destruction gangs in Maseru, Leribe, and Mafeteng continue to operate along the border.

Sanitary measures in the various Government Reserves continue to be introduced, but financial stringency allows of little being done at a time.

Leper Settlement.

At the 31st December, 1926, the numbers of the male and female inmates were equal, viz., 247, making a total population of 494. At the 31st December, 1927, the numbers were 237 males and 259 females, making a total of 496.

The following table indicates the various sources of increase and diminution in the population throughout the year:—

1927.	*Admissions.*	*Re-Admissions.*	*Deaths.*	*Desertions.*	*Discharges.*
Males... ...	51	12	36	23	14
Females ...	54	7	18	12	19
Totals ...	105	19	54	35	33

The corresponding table for the previous year, 1926, is reproduced for comparison:—

1926.	*Admissions.*	*Re-Admissions.*	*Deaths.*	*Desertions.*	*Discharges.*
Males... ...	43	5	18	7	4
Females ...	41	2	24	1	4
Totals ...	84	7	42	8	8

There is a remarkable increase of 21 in the number of admissions as compared with that in 1926. This indicates one or both of two suppositions (1) the disease is increasing in the Territory, or (2) the chiefs and headmen in the past have not been satisfactorily doing their duty in reporting cases of leprosy in their wards and villages. The large percentage of fairly advanced cases recorded in the Medical Officer's report seems to indicate the second of these suppositions as the predominating one.

There is also a large increase in the number of re-admissions; these, being re-admissions of deserters, depend upon the number of desertions.

It will be observed that the deaths among the males have been doubled, while those among females have been reduced by 25 per cent. The large increase in the death-rate among males, and the considerable diminution among females, is a fortuitous circumstance which does not admit of any special explanation.

There has been a very large increase in the number of desertions. This is partly explained by the fact that on two occasions a number of children and juveniles left in search of adventure. The fact that adults who desert are automatically deprived of their piece of cultivated land, and find them occupied by others on their return, acts as a strong deterrent in their case. The punishment of children for desertion is a difficult matter. Corporal punishment and imprisonment have to be avoided.

The number of discharges of patients as arrested cases, viz., 33, is very satisfactory. Not all who receive certificates of discharge, or who have been pronounced to be arrested cases, can be discharged. It is necessary that there should be at their villages relatives able and willing to support such of them as are disabled.

9.—EDUCATION.

Generally speaking, the year has been rather an unusual one. Besides the appointment of three new Inspectors and one new Native Supervisor of Schools, preparations have been made and the machinery constructed for the new system which is to begin in January, 1928.

In the new system an attempt is being made to solve the problem of making a fair compromise between an elementary education for the majority and an intermediate education for the few who can afford to continue their studies.

Hitherto the tendency has been for schools to attempt more than they could carry out, having regard to the limited knowledge of English which the teachers possessed and the primitive accommodation and equipment provided for the schools.

The new Regulations represent an attempt to draw more clearly the line between the type of instruction which every child requires

for his daily life and the further instruction which can of necessity only be available for the comparatively few. They provide for centralised intermediate schools which will relieve the elementary schools of work which ought not ordinarily to be undertaken by them. The removal of the higher classes will give the teachers time for proper instruction of the purely vernacular classes; while staffs suitable for giving education in the higher classes will be concentrated at the intermediate schools.

Under the new system schools are divided into three classes :—

(1). Elementary Vernacular Schools which are prohibited from going beyond Grade VI (roughly corresponding to Standard III);

(2) Intermediate Schools including all classes up to Standard VI;

(3) Institutions.

It is expected that it will be possible to inspect each school at least once annually and that the present staff of Inspectors will be in a position to enforce the carrying out of the syllabus in the elementary vernacular schools and to help those in charge of intermediate schools to make the best of the opportunities they may have of giving instruction in practical subjects as well as in bookwork.

The institutions for the training of teachers have their standard set for them by the Education Department of the Cape Province, which for many years past has given most valuable assistance to Basutoland and, by means of inspection and examination, has set before the institutions a definite standard which is recognised throughout South Africa and Rhodesia.

Bursaries will be granted to a few of the pupils going from Intermediate Schools to institutions and from institutions to the South African Native College at Fort Hare. As the elementary vernacular schools are widely spread [illegible] the intermediate schools are more or less within reach of anyone willing to make an effort, any boy of outstanding character and ability will have a fair chance of continuing his education, even if his parents are extremely poor. As the Inspectors get to know their districts, they will find out not only those who are the brightest pupils but they will learn from their own observations and from teachers' statements those who are the best pupils and most likely to make good use of further education. The institutions should also benefit by receiving each year a certain number of selected pupils.

Statistics.

The average attendance of pupils in schools and institutions is now 34,134, while the number of scholars on the roll is 46,945.

The following table shows the average attendance of pupils during the last ten years :—

TABLE 1.

Year.	*Average Attendance.*	*Increase.*	*Decrease.*
1918	21,160	391	—
1919	22,556	1,396	—
1920	23,479	932	—
1921	22,586	—	893
1922	23,424	838	—
1923	26,124	2,700	—
1924	29,267	3,143	—
1925	30,005	738	—
1926	33,074	3,069	—
1927	34,134	1,060	—

During this period there has been an increase of about 13,000 units of average attendance. After the exceptionally large increase in 1926, the increase this year is slightly below the average annual increase.

TABLE 2.

Grants to Missions for elementary schools for the year ending the 31st December, 1927, were as follows :—

	£
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	20,002
Roman Catholic Mission	6,648
Church of England Mission	3,212
	£29,862.

TABLE 3.

Elementary schools according to size and denomination.

Mission.	*Over 200.*	*150 to 200.*	*100 to 150.*	*70 to 100.*	*60 to 70.*	*45 to 60.*	*25 to 45.*	*20 to 25.*	*Under 20*	*Total.*
P.E.M.S. ...	6	20	52	59	34	55	86	30	16	358
R.C.	2	9	9	15	14	12	35	11	7	114
C. of E. ...	0	1	7	10	8	8	17	7	3	61
Totals ...	8	30	68	84	56	75	138	48	26	533
	−3	+1	+8	−19	+9	−18	+9	+12	+3	+2

The increases and decreases as compared with 1926 are given under each column. The table shows that two-fifths of the elementary schools in the Territory come under the classification of "one-teacher schools." Two new schools appear to have been added to the list since last year, but these are schools which were closed temporarily and were reopened this year. According to the agreement with the Missions, no new schools are to be started until the standard of those already existing has been improved.

TABLE 4.

Enrolment of pupils in elementary schools.

Mission.	*No. of Pupils on Roll, September, 1926.*			*No. of Pupils on Roll, September, 1927.*		
	Boys.	*Girls.*	*Total.*	*Boys.*	*Girls.*	*Total.*
P.E.M.S.	10,553	20,805	31,358	10,652	21,892	32,544
R.C.	2,074	6,329	8,403	2,145	6,825	8,970
C. of E.	1,494	2,997	4,491	1,507	3,178	4,685
Totals ...	14,121	30,131	44,252	14,304	31,895	46,199

The increase is 1,947, as compared with an increase of 2,400 in 1926. The proportion of girls as compared to boys continues to increase.

Except in the mountains there are now no large areas of grazing veld, and, as the cattle have to graze on the narrow strips of grass lying between the cultivated lands, each herd of cattle requires several herd boys to look after it. Boys are keen on education, and there are few who would not attend school if they had the chance, but they cannot be spared. As further land is broken up, more herd boys are wanted, and the tendency is for the proportion of girls to boys to increase rather than to even up. The above figures show that the proportion of girls to boys is over 2 to 1.

TABLE 5.

Enrolment of pupils in institutions.

Mission.	*Institution.*	*No. of Pupils on Roll, September, 1926.*			*No. of Pupils on Roll, September, 1927.*			*Grant.*
		Boys.	*Girls.*	*Total.*	*Boys.*	*Girls.*	*Total.*	
								£
P.E.M.S. ...	Morija (Normal & Agric.)	139	—	139	138	—	138	2,100
P.E.M.S. ...	Th.Morena (Normal & Indus.)	—	38	38	—	69	69	600
P.E.M.S. ...	Cana (Indus.)...	—	25	25	—	31	31	350
P.E.M.S. ...	Leloaleng (Indus. & Agric.)	53	—	53	56	—	56	800
R.C. ...	Roma (Normal, Indus.&Agric.)	113	248	361	141	307	548	800
C. of E. ...	Masite (Normal Indus.&Agric.)	26	—	26	30	1	31	450
C. of E. ...	Maseru (Indus.)	—	37	37	—	36	36	150
Totals		331	348	679	365	444	809	£5,250

The figures given for Roma include a considerable number of day scholars who attend the boarding schools for boys and girls at Roma. In the other Missions only boarders are enrolled in the institutions.

TABLE 6.

Average attendance of pupils in elementary schools.

Mission.	*Year ending September, 1926.*			*Year ending September, 1927.*		
	Boys.	*Girls.*	*Total.*	*Boys.*	*Girls.*	*Total.*
P.E.M.S....	7,258	15,477	22,735	7,404	15,958	23,362
R.C.	1,496	4,956	6,452	1,540	5,181	6,721
C. of E.	1,032	2,220	3,252	1,033	2,334	3,367
Totals... ...	9,786	22,653	32,439	9,977	23,473	33,450

The total average attendance in elementary schools of 33,450 is 1,011 more than last year.

European Schools.

The eight European schools with a total attendance of 115 pupils received a grant of £1,900. These schools have good buildings and are well equipped. They provide only elementary education and prepare pupils for schools outside Basutoland.

10.—LABOUR.

The following figures give the number of passes issued to natives to leave the Territory for labour purposes during the past two years :—

	Mines.	*Railway Construction.*	*Agriculture.*	*Miscellaneous Labour.*	*Total.*
1926	34,504	659	19,217	41,484	95,864
1927	24,880	173	9,507	23,407	57,967

11.—VETERINARY.

ANTHRAX.

Twenty-eight outbreaks of anthrax occurred during the year, being twelve less than last year.

The policy of keeping all transport oxen inoculated on the western roads has been enforced, and altogether 41,039 animals have been inoculated. Most of these inoculations have been carried out by the Police Force, and the ready co-operation of Assistant Commissioners and Police Officers in this matter has been much appreciated.

The importance of burying anthrax carcasses intact is being better understood by cattle owners.

No anthrax has been diagnosed amongst equines and ovines.

Equine Mange

There is every evidence that very considerable progress has been made in the eradication of equine mange, and it is hoped to stamp out this disease in the near future.

Energetic propaganda work has been carried out during the past 12 months, and every effort has been made to impress upon horse owners the necessity of reporting and bringing their animals for early treatment.

During the year, 14,202 animals were treated, but it is thought that a number of these were not true cases of sarcoptic mange, native dip supervisors treating all cases of skin troubles as mange.

All evidence goes to show that the position in the mountain area has improved immensely, but reports have come to notice of abandoned mange-infected horses, and every effort is being made to have these destroyed or collected by the chief and brought to a tank for treatment.

Scab.

Excellent progress is being made in the eradication of this disease.

The simultaneous tank inspection during the early summer of 67 protected areas, involving 846,293 sheep and goats, gave results better than could have been anticipated. All these sheep and goats were put on a table and subjected to a thorough hand inspection and only 82 sheep and goats, representing 36 flocks, were found to be infected with scab.

During the year not less than 2,118,319 sheep and goats were dipped. Most of this dipping was done at non-protected tanks and in dealing with moving sheep.

The prevalence of scab in the mountains where no tanks have been operating is an education and negatives the theory that there is little or no scab in the mountains. During the year the Thaba Putsoa tank in the Maseru district was opened. This tank is 9,000 feet above sea-level and taps a very thickly-populated sheep country. In subjecting these flocks to a simultaneous dipping it was found that 65 per cent. of them were infected and in some of them over 50 per cent. of the sheep were scab infected. An experience of this sort clearly demonstrates the importance of pushing tank erection as quickly as possible, as with such centres and the constant movement of sheep it can easily be seen in what jeopardy the protected areas stand.

The financial position became very serious this year, and it was quite apparent that unless more money was forthcoming there

was little hope of carrying on the work to its final issue. It is very gratifying to report that the Basutoland Chamber of Commerce and the National Council unanimously agreed to a suggestion that the duty on wool and mohair exported from the Territory should be increased from ¼d. to ½d. per lb. and as a result it is hoped by practising economy ultimately to build tanks throughout the mountain areas and so give every sheep-owner proper facilities for dipping.

It is estimated that about 75 more tanks are required in the Territory, and it is hoped to complete this building scheme in about four years. The building of tanks is a slow process and in view of the climatic difficulties, all material having to be transported on pack animals, together with the human factor, there are many setbacks. The work is, however, becoming better understood and with a stronger financial position it is now possible to give the work to a better class of workman.

Before the end of the summer it is hoped that the whole of the Quthing District will be tanked, and it will be interesting to observe the result of the dipping in a completely tanked district.

During the year, 17,732 sheep and goats were exported; 12,684 of these went to East Griqualand via Qacha's Nek.

On the whole it is thought that the native staff have been more satisfactory than last year, but the necessity of giving these men constant European supervision is continually demonstrated.

The experiment of appointing native Scab Inspectors is still in progress, but it is too early to give an opinion on the result. It is proposed to increase these Inspectors considerably during the next financial year.

The European Scab Inspectors have had a very strenuous year; the picking of sites and organising the work connected with new tanks has in many instances considerably added to their scab work.

Wool Industry.

There is abundant evidence that the propaganda against the bastard and Persian ram is bearing fruit. In some wards all bastard rams have been castrated, and there is a general tendency to kill these sheep for food in preference to the Merino. Scab Inspectors are continually preaching against the bastard sheep and trying to educate the sheep-owner accordingly. Some of the traders are also carrying out useful work in this direction and they are, of course, in a better position to do this than is the Veterinary Department as they are constantly purchasing the wool of the country.

As a result of this campaign, sheep-owners are now clamouring for better facilities to substitute their castrated bastards with good

Merino rams. A bounty of £500 has now been provided on imported Merino rams of approved type and excellent results are anticipated.

Stud.

The stud season owing to drought has been a very unfavourable one, and there was a general absence of green grass right up to the end of the year. This reacted on the milk supply for foals and the favourable conditions necessary for early pregnancy.

General.

The usual outbreaks of strangles, gallsickness, and biliary fever have been successfully treated.

During the year, 2,066 professional visits and attendances were made by the Principal Veterinary Officer.

12.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Legislation.

The following proclamations were promulgated during the year :—

(1) No. 2.—Further Appropriation (1925-26) Proclamation, 1927.
(2) No. 5.—Radio Proclamation, 1927.
(3) No. 13.—Education Fund Proclamation, 1927.
(4) No. 14.—Sheep and Goats Importation Restriction Proclamation, 1927.
(5) No. 15.—Further Amending the Basutoland Stock and Produce Theft Repression Proclamation, 1921.
(6) No. 18.—Amending in certain respects the Obscene Publications (Basutoland) Proclamation, 1912.
(7) No. 23.—Amending the Basutoland Motor Vehicle Proclamation, 1926.
(8) No. 25.—Amending the Basutoland Trading Proclamation (No. 30 of 1918) so as to permit native residents in Basutoland to trade in certain articles without a licence.
(9) No. 26.—Insolvency Proclamation, 1927.
(10) No. 33.—Income Tax Proclamation, 1927.
(11) No. 34.—Appropriation Proclamation, 1927.
(12) No. 36.—Customs Management and Tariff (Amendment) Proclamation, 1927.
(13) No. 43.—Increasing the rate of duty imposed on wool and mohair from one farthing to one half-penny per pound.

R. M. BOSWORTH SMITH,
Government Secretary,
Basutoland.

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No. 1428

BASUTOLAND

REPORT FOR 1928

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BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1928.*

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PREFATORY NOTE.

History and Geography.

Basutoland, which is a native territory in South Africa, is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, and on the south by the Cape Province. Its area is 11,716 square miles. It lies between 28° 35′ and 30° 40′ South latitude, and between 27° and 29° 30′ East longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 ft. to 11,000 ft. above sea-level, and the climate is, on the whole, healthy. The Maluti Mountains, which occupy most of the country to the east, in former years were reserved entirely as cattle and sheep-posts, but owing to the increase in population the Basuto have found it necessary to migrate there, build villages and cultivate the land, so that to-day this more or less inaccessible area is gradually becoming as thickly populated as the low-lying country to the west. The result of this invasion into the mountain area is the disappearance of all big game, such as eland and hartebeeste, that used to abound some 30 years ago and the gradual elimination of the smaller buck.

* The financial information given in this Report is for the financial year ended 31st March, 1928.

In favourable seasons the territory produces wheat, maize, and kaffir corn, while horse-breeding and the raising of cattle and sheep are profitable undertakings, especially the latter; the export of wool for this year amounting to 14,927,616 pounds weight, valued at £765,000 approximately.

In 1818 the first Paramount Chief of Basutoland, Moshesh, gathered together the various remnants of tribes which had become scattered about South Africa during the wars of Moselekatse and thus founded what has become the Basuto nation. The estimated native population is 550,000, while the Europeans, as taken at the last Census, numbered 1,600.

A series of wars took place from 1856 onwards between the Basuto and the inhabitants of the Orange Free State, and it was not until 1868, when he was hard pressed by the Boers, that Moshesh appealed to the British Government for help and the recognition of his people as British subjects. This was carried into effect in March, 1868, but in 1871 the territory was annexed to the Cape Colony and, after various disturbances, the Government of the Cape in April, 1880, extended the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878 to Basutoland, which included a clause for the general disarmament of the Basuto. The Basuto, however, refused to accept the terms and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at by which the Act was repealed and certain fines inflicted on the tribe.

Although outwardly peace had been restored, there still remained several chiefs who would in no way accept the terms, and it was eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This took effect on the 13th March, 1884. Since that date the territory has been governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for South Africa.

Languages.

The principal languages are English and Sesuto.

Currency.

The coin in circulation is mainly South African, but late South African Republic coins are occasionally met with. Central Reserve Bank notes are brought into the territory, but the local bank only re-issues the notes of joint stock banks. Gold coin is unlimited, but the demand is negligible. £12,500 in gold, £1,000 in silver, and £90 in copper coin was exported during the year by the Maseru branch of the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited.

The amount of coin in circulation at the end of 1928 was between £40,000 and £50,000, and notes between £100,000 and £125,000.

The Imperial Coinage Act, 1920, is in force in the territory, re-enacted under the High Commissioner's Notice No. 63 of 1920.

Weights and Measures.

The weights and measures in use in Basutoland are the British Imperial, but the Colonial ton of 2,000 lb. is also used.

I. GENERAL.

In September the aged Chief Jonathan died ; during the earlier wars alluded to in the preceding section this Chief had always been a loyal supporter of the Government and he commanded great respect from the tribe. His successor has been nominated by the Paramount Chief, but up to the time of writing the appointment has not been officially confirmed.

There were no faction fights of importance during the year.

A decision was given in the Privy Council regarding the succession of the sons of the late Chief Mojela in which the judgment of the Resident Commissioner's Court was upheld.

Two new appointments—a Judicial Commissioner and a Crown Prosecutor—were made during the year, the duties of these officers being divided between the High Commission Territories.

Drought.—The territory again suffered from a severe drought in the early spring and autumn ; the crop prospects are, however, fairly normal.

Basutoland Council.—The twenty-third session of the Basutoland National Council was held from the 29th September to the 6th October, 1928. The following were the more important subjects discussed :—

1. Agriculture—the appointment of additional Agricultural Demonstrators and the apathy of many leading chiefs towards Agricultural Shows.
2. Erection of dipping tanks.
3. Deferred pay at the mines—explanation of the " Engcobo " System.
4. Stricter enforcement of Leprosy Proclamation.
5. " Placing " of sons of chiefs.
6. Conservation of water.

II. FINANCE.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue for the financial year ended 31st March, 1928, amounted to £306,399, and the expenditure to £294,874, an excess of revenue over expenditure of £11,525.

The balance of assets in excess of liabilities at the 31st March, 1928, was £105,659.

The following statements show the revenue and expenditure during the past five financial years :—

REVENUE.

Head.	*1923–24*	*1924–25*	*1925–26*	*1926–27*	*1927–28*
	£	£	£	£	£
Native Tax	134,698	127,531	139,776	132,072	137,744
Customs and Excise	71,043	76,765	84,196	87,352	92,201
Posts and Telegraphs	8,038	8,520	8,428	7,648	8,466
Licences	7,585	7,928	7,766	8,758	8,938
Fees of Court or Office	784	906	1,084	933	956
Judicial Fines	2,009	1,991	3,022	1,911	2,629
Income Tax	6,773	12,997	13,759	10,784	12,843
Fees for Services rendered	1,366	1,484	1,386	1,278	1,159
Interest	2,341	1,735	1,819	2,158	2,275
Wool Export Duty	14,128	17,189	15,421	17,141	17,918
Miscellaneous	3,857	3,962	4,915	4,369	7,913
Education Levy	—	—	—	—	13,357
Totals	£252,613	£261,008	£281,572	£274,404	£306,399

Expenditure.

Head.	*1923–24*	*1924–25*	*1925–26*	*1926–27*	*1927–28*
	£	£	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner	13,758	13,692	13,829	13,811	12,532
District Administration	12,670	12,791	13,091	13,690	13,619
Police	36,189	36,756	37,507	39,164	39,160
Posts and Telegraphs	10,437	10,118	10,458	11,676	11,118
Administration of Justice	9,806	11,078	11,659	11,194	12,379
Public Works Department	6,526	5,665	5,616	5,218	5,147
Public Works Recurrent	20,990	22,153	23,778	25,669	23,044
Public Works Extraordinary	3,661	2,383	8,820	6,872	3,671
Medical	20,575	22,795	21,548	22,617	26,121
Education	34,813	35,836	40,113	41,412	54,871
Government Industrial School	2,437	2,429	2,486	2,508	6,566
Agriculture	21,806	22,927	28,780	27,659	30,874*
Allowances to Chiefs	12,448	12,323	11,994	11,691	12,002
National Council	1,950	2,193	2,037	1,909	1,641
Leper Settlement	20,036	19,077	19,306	19,401	19,558
Pensions	6,681	6,812	7,599	10,030	11,797
Miscellaneous	5,656	6,955	9,455	6,076	6,970
Capital Expenditure	1,230	4,214	—	2,030	3,804
Totals	£241,669	£250,197	£268,076	£272,627	£294,874

* Includes cost of measures taken for eradication of Scab.

Income Tax.

The rates of Normal and Super Tax remained the same as during the preceding financial year, and were imposed by the Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1925. The only enactment during the year under review dealing with Income Tax was the Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1928 (No. 14 of 1928), which levied the tax for the twelve months ending 30th June, 1928. The total collection of Income Tax was made up as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Arrear Normal Tax	217	17	11
Current Normal Tax	10,084	14	11
Current Super Tax	2,540	8	1
	£12,843	0	11

The following table shows the sources from which taxable incomes were derived and the amount of tax paid from each source :—

	£	s.	d.
General Traders	9,803	0	9
Civil Servants	1,157	19	3
Employed Persons	1,012	14	2
Others, including Bank	467	0	4
Non-Residents	402	6	5
	£12,843	0	11

There is a noticeable decrease in the amount collected from non-residents.

The number of incomes assessed for current tax in the various categories were :—

Number.	*Category.*	*Total of Taxable Income.*
		£
63	£500 and under	23,776
59	£501—£750	25,482
28	£751—£1,000	24,738
24	£1,001—£1,500	28,591
6	£1,501—£2,000	10,330
11	£2,001—£4,000	27,832
9	Over £4,000	76,512
200	Total taxable income of persons assessed for current tax.	£217,261

III. PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

Locust Destruction.—There have been no outbreaks of *voetgangers* during the year and no flying locusts were observed in Basutoland. The campaign against the "Elegant Grasshopper" which was carried out on the Maseru Reserve last year proved successful as these insects have not been nearly so numerous this season.

Reports of damage done to young wheat crops in parts of the Qacha's Nek district by the "Elegant Grasshopper" have been received, but the pest was quickly overcome on the arrival of the migratory storks.

Agricultural Shows.—An amount of £500 was provided for Agricultural Shows which were held at all Government Camps with the exception of Butha Buthe, Peka, and Mokhotlong.

The work of the Agricultural Demonstrators is already bearing fruit and is evinced by the keener interest taken by the people and the higher quality of the exhibits, the Produce Sections at all Shows showing a marked improvement.

Sheep and Goat Sections at all Shows were also better than usual owing to the keenness and co-operation of Scab Inspectors throughout the territory. The results of the Ram bounty Importation Scheme were also apparent.

Donga Prevention and Tree Planting.—The vote for these services was £1,500. Efforts to counter serious soil erosion and to check the growth of existing dongas were continued, several new works being undertaken.

At the close of the year there were some 253,251 trees in the various Government nurseries. During the year, 46,540 trees were issued to natives and others and 6,625 were planted on the various Government reserves.

Seed Wheat Bounty.—An amount of £500 was set aside as a bounty on seed wheat. The bounty was confined to imported seed, but owing to the severe droughts experienced it is feared that very few natives benefited from it.

Agricultural Demonstrators.—Thirteen Demonstrators are now employed in the various parts of the territory. Increasing interest is being taken in their work by the natives, many of whom are purchasing cultivators and planters and the exhibits at the produce sections of the various Shows are proof of the increasing number of converts to better agricultural methods.

General.—The maize and kaffir-corn crops were good. Wheat crops in the lowlands were almost a complete failure, though excellent crops were obtained in the mountain areas.

Among the growing crops a very bad attack of "Cut Worm" in mealies is responsible for many thin fields and poor prospects, as many natives had to sow their lands as many as three times owing to the ravages of this pest.

Forestry, Fisheries, and Mining.

There are no natural forests in Basutoland and no fisheries. No mining operations are carried on.

IV. TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The following is a return of the imports into, and exports from, the territory by general traders during the calendar year 1928, the figures for 1927 being given for the purposes of comparison :—

Imports.

	1927		1928	
	No.	*Value.*	*No.*	*Value.*
		£		£
Merchandise	—	780,470	—	881,767
Livestock.—				
Horses, Mules, etc.	127	490	1,350	1,855
Cattle	2,747	6,947	4,772	11,239
Sheep and Goats	598	1,059	716	1,541
Grain.—	*Muids.*		*Muids.*	
Wheat and Wheat Meal... ...	5,925	9,506	6,920	10,460
Maize and Maize Meal	46,602	34,155	15,289	10,925
Kaffir Corn	8,452	9,631	3,399	3,124
Other Produce	—	635	—	663
Totals ...	—	£842,893	—	£921,574

Exports.

	1927		1928	
	No.	*Value.*	*No.*	*Value.*
Livestock.—		£		£
Horses, Mules, etc.	21	95	32	233
Cattle	1,981	9,620	1,538	7,165
Sheep and Goats	867	569	—	—
Grain.—	*Muids.*		*Muids.*	
Wheat and Wheat Meal... ...	103,568	115,455	118,280	131,414
Maize and Maize Meal	37,512	17,663	100,774	59,295
Kaffir Corn	22,062	20,020	30,969	18,530
Oats	55	23	56	37
Barley	67	35	138	86
Beans and Peas	3,458	3,521	2,371	3,166
Wool and Mohair.—	*Lb.*		*Lb.*	
Wool	12,906,789	508,687	12,725,153	610,750
Mohair	2,132,907	139,226	1,921,189	139,484
Hides and Skins.—				
Hides	492,626	18,289	607,428	31,817
Skins	217,351	5,356	406,480	11,002
Miscellaneous	—	538	—	413
Totals	—	£839,095	—	£1,013,392

Other Statistics.

Government imports during the year amounted to £50,059, as compared with £51,562 in 1927.

The total exports of wool and mohair during the year amounted to 14,927,616 lb., of which 14,646,342 lb. were exported by general traders.

General.

All imports by traders are made through wholesale houses in the Union of South Africa or by direct indent with wholesale houses overseas, and all exports are to the Union of South Africa. It is therefore impossible to give the origin of goods imported or the ultimate destination of goods exported.

With the exception of fuel, soap, motor-oil, and petrol which are purchased in the Union, all Government imports are made through the Crown Agents for the Colonies, London.

V. COMMUNICATIONS.

Railways.

There is only a small branch line from Marseilles (on the Bloemfontein-Natal main line) to Maseru, and only one mile of this is in Basutoland.

Roads.

The reorganization of the staff, which was carried out during 1927, has resulted in general improvement in the condition of the roads; re-gravelling has been carried out almost continuously, additional culverts have been built, and a number of low-lying sections have been built up.

The increase in the number of motor-lorries during the year is very noticeable and, though the travelling public appear satisfied that progress is being made it is realised that the growth of motor transport will call for continued improvement.

The reinforced-concrete bridge across the Telle River on the Quthing-Cape Province border has been completed by the Public Works Department of the Union of South Africa, and has greatly improved the communications of this part of the territory. The Administration of Basutoland bore half the cost of this work.

Postal.

All districts in Basutoland are linked up with Maseru by telegraph and telephone lines with the exception of Qacha's Nek, which is connected by telegraph and telephone with Matatiele in East Griqualand. The systems are owned by the Basutoland Government. Both telegraph and telephones are used by the general public and public telephone call offices are attached to each post office.

There are ten telegraph offices in the territory and 154¾ miles of telegraph wire. During 1928 telegraph messages numbering 60,965 were dealt with as follows:—cables 296; Government telegrams 2,758; ordinary 24,368; transmitted 13,180; received 20,363.

There are ten central telephone offices with telephones in service. The length of local exchange wire is 84¼ miles and long-distance wire 410½ miles.

The net postal, telegraph, and telephone revenue for the year ended 31st March, 1928, amounted to £8,465, as compared with £7,648 for the year 1926–27, and the expenditure amounted to £11,117, as compared with £11,676 for the year 1926–27.

The following table shows the number of deposits in, and withdrawals from, the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years :—

	Deposits.	*Withdrawals.*
1926–27 =	1,587, value £6,925	923, value £7,404
1927–28 =	1,845, value £9,187	867, value £6,540

The following comparative table shows the number and value of money and postal orders issued and paid during the past two years :—

	Issued.	*Paid.*
1926–27 =	32,225, value £28,611	65,457, value £74,003
1927–28 =	32,597, value £29,905	47,427, value £53,377

VI. JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

During the year, two new appointments, a Judicial Commissioner and a Crown Prosecutor, were made, the duties of these officers being divided between the three High Commission Territories.

During the year under review 2,914 crimes were reported or known to the Police, the number of persons proceeded against being 2,737, as compared with 2,185 and 2,456, respectively, for the year 1927. Convictions in Magisterial Courts numbered 2,162 and in the Resident Commissioner's Court 37, as compared with 2,080 and 95, respectively, in 1927.

The following table shows the number of convictions for various crimes and offences during the last four years :—

In Magisterial Courts.	*1925.*	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*
Offences against the person ...	425	97	287	438
Offences against property ...	327	244	272	253
Offences against liquor laws ...	48	52	37	42
Other crimes	1,446	1,409	1,484	1,429

In the Resident Commissioner's Court.	*1925.*	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*
Murder	4	6	1	1
Culpable Homicide	18	38	24	20
Attempted Murder	—	—	1	4
Rape	2	2	—	2
Unnatural Crime	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the person	13	11	4	2
Offences against property with violence to the person.	84	298	48	4
Other offences against property...	28	41	15	3
Other crimes	1	1	—	—

Police.

The Police Force consists of native non-commissioned officers and men under European Officers.

Prisons.

There are seven gaols and three lock-ups in the territory, and 2,597 prisoners passed through them during the year, as compared with 2,401 in 1927.

VII. PUBLIC WORKS.

Repairs to Government buildings in the Leribe, Butha Buthe, Peka, and Teyateyaneng Camps have been carried out, and the Government Hospitals at Maseru, Leribe, Mafeteng, and Mohale's Hoek have been re-painted and repaired. All other works carried out during the year were of minor importance.

Water Works.

The Qacha's Nek Water Supply Scheme, which was commenced in 1927, was completed during the year and brings in a supply of 20,000 gallons per diem.

Owing to the severe drought, difficulty has been experienced in maintaining adequate supplies.

The water supplies in the Teyateyaneng, Maseru, Mafeteng, and Mohale's Hoek Camps have diminished to such an alarming extent that the whole question has had to receive special consideration.

The main contributory factors in the decrease are, firstly, the gradual drying-up of springs throughout the territory, due to the decreased rainfall and general overstocking, and, secondly, from the yearly increased demand for water in each camp owing to the growth of the population. Other factors are old and faulty piping and insufficient reservoir storage accommodation.

As Teyateyaneng Camp is situated on the top of a sandstone ridge and is considerably higher than the surrounding country, the water supply is dependent on bore-holes, as a gravitation scheme—even if suitable springs on nearby mountains existed—would be too expensive and probably would not, in any case, yield a sufficient supply.

Maseru, which has a supply of spring water, led from some eight miles away, as well as a river-water supply pumped up from the Caledon River, has suffered very severely during the past year. Owing to the severe droughts experienced during the spring and early summer, the spring-water supply became seriously diminished and, with the exception of the Government Hospital, the whole township had to be cut off from the mains all day save from 6 to 9 a.m. and 5 to 9 p.m., and even then water failed to reach many consumers.

The river-water supply pumping plant, which has been in operation for some 15 years, has become so worn out that, despite constant repairs, it was not running for more than an average of one day per week, and the shortage of spring-water was accentuated by the fact that it was used by many consumers for purposes for which river-water would, under normal circumstances, have sufficed.

In Mohale's Hoek, where the shortage was principally due to mechanical defects in the pumping plant, measures have been taken to effect the necessary repairs.

General.

Owing to the almost general shortage of water, it was decided to call for the opinion of an expert, and it is proposed within the course of the next year to sink bore-holes at the various centres with a view to ensuring a more constant supply, and provision is being made for the replacement of the Maseru River pumping plant.

VIII. PUBLIC HEALTH.

During the year, 2,332 patients were treated in the hospitals, showing a decrease of 267 as compared with the previous year. This decrease was due to the fact that the Maseru, Mafeteng, and Mohale's Hoek hospitals were in turn closed, to all intents and purposes, for renovation from July to the end of October. The hospital at Qacha's Nek was closed in November for a time on account of the shortage of water.

The European patients during the year numbered 102 ; as usual, most of them were surgical cases. The deaths during the year numbered 169. The number of patients treated in the out-patients department was 66,080, showing an increase of 3,019 over the previous year. The number of vaccinations during the year was 2,003. The revenue collected in hospital and dispensary fees was £2,835 4s. 6d.

The following table details the above quoted total :—

District.	*In-patients.*	*Out-patients.*	*Vaccinations.*	*Revenue.* £ s. d.
Maseru	863	14,509	—	809 1 3
Leribe	438	12,933	—	539 11 6
Mafeteng	355	12,787	—	539 1 0
Mohale's Hoek	253	6,747	74	290 3 0
Quthing	268	8,089	1,730	278 5 0
Qacha's Nek	155	3,657	199	125 2 0
Teyateyaneng	—	7,358	—	254 0 9
Totals	2,332	66,080	2,003	£2,835 4 6

As regards the health of the territory, there has been no epidemic of any nature. Cases of enteric fever were reported in every district, the total number of cases being 575. Inoculations against this disease were carried out in each instance when an outbreak occurred.

There was not a single case of small-pox reported in the country, but, on the other hand, 76 cases of scarlet fever were reported. Of the other epidemic, endemic, and infectious diseases, the number of cases were as follows :—

Influenza	1,016
Pneumonia	311
Dysentery	189
Typhus	33
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	2
Tetanus	1

There was a small outbreak of diphtheria in the north of the Territory, but no deaths were reported. Antitoxin was immediately supplied. There were many cases of whooping cough amongst the Europeans, affecting both children and adults ; many natives were also victimised. The cases of measles were not many. There were 13 cases of anthrax, but this was due to the careiessness of the natives. There was a slight increase in the number of venereal diseases, but these were not out of proportion to the great increase in the number of cases treated.

The general health of the Government native employees and also of the prisoners has been good.

During the year, the number of rodents destroyed was 6,444, but there was no suspicion of any case of plague in Basutoland.

Sanitary measures were adopted in Mafeteng for the benefit of the natives, and it is hoped to do the same in Butha Buthe during the coming year.

Leper Settlement.

On the 31st December, 1927, the population of the Settlement was 496, consisting of 237 males and 259 females. On the 31st December, 1928, there were 243 males and 283 females, making a total of 526, showing an increase of population of 30.

The changes of the population throughout the year are indicated in the following table :—

	Admitted.	*Re-admitted.*	*Died.*	*Deserted.*	*Discharged.*
Males	58	9	21	5	35
Females ...	57	7	14	6	20
Totals... ...	115	16	35	11	55

The following is the corresponding table for the year 1927 :—

	Admitted.	*Re-admitted.*	*Died.*	*Deserted.*	*Discharged.*
Males	51	12	36	23	14
Females ...	54	7	18	12	19
Totals... ...	105	19	54	35	33

The increase in the number of patients was 10. There was a decrease in the number of those re-admitted of 3, a decrease of 19 in those who died, a decrease of 24 of those who deserted, and there was a happy increase of 22 of those who were discharged. So that the increase of the population at the end of the year is not entirely accounted for by the increase of the number of admittances.

It will be noted that, whilst the number of deaths amongst the males last year was double that of the females, this year the proportion is as three to two. The number of desertions has decreased by more than two thirds, which would seem to show that the inhabitants are more or less satisfied with their surroundings.

As has been mentioned before, the increase in the number of those discharged is a testimony of the good work which is being done by the Medical Officer.

IX. EDUCATION.

The new system, by which is meant the re-classification of the schools in the territory and the enlargement of the Inspectorate, has now been in operation for a full year and it is consequently possible profitably to examine some of its results.

Schools were divided at the beginning of 1928 into Elementary (Grades I–VI) and Intermediate (Grades I–VI and Standards IV–VI). Previously all schools had been allowed to teach up to Standard VI. The effect of this new classification is apparent in Tables I, III, and IV. The increase in pupils has fallen to 196; the number of large schools has increased by 16 and many others have decreased in in size.

The average number of pupils on the roll has dropped by over 300 in comparison with the previous year, which shows that many pupils who had taken Standard III did not continue their studies.

It was found that complaints were made of the insufficiency of Intermediate Schools, and at the meeting of the Board of Advice on Education in November it was decided to increase their number by eight. The building of the Government Intermediate Schools at Maseru and Mafeteng is progressing satisfactorily and it is expected that they will be opened at the beginning of the third quarter. These Schools will admit Standard IV–VI pupils only and it is hoped that they will relieve the congestion in the Mission Intermediate Schools.

Since many native parents wished their children to continue their education above Standard III without necessarily taking the full intermediate course, it was decided that in 1929 200 selected Elementary Schools should be allowed to teach up to Standard IV.

The effect of the enlargement of the Inspectorate has been seen in the number of inspections carried out during the year (650 as compared with 340 in 1927 and 270 in 1926). Teachers are being shown how to make the best of their abilities and resources, the syllabus is more carefully followed, and lazy dishonest work is becoming rarer. No similar advance can be reported in the school buildings and equipment which on the whole are still distinctly poor owing to the impecuniosity of the Missions.

The annual reports of the Mission Institutions relate of satisfactory progress. Leloaleng has had an exceptionally good year, but the agricultural course is not popular with the boys. At Morija, on the other hand, the agricultural section is in a more flourishing state, a number of pupils being engaged in this branch of work. Morija has also had very satisfactory results in the external examinations. Reports from Cana are excellent and at Thabana Morena many awards for industrial work were gained at the camp exhibitions. Agriculture is making great strides at Masite, and Maseru (St. Catherine's) has had a satisfactory year.

The new bursary system, by which the sons of poor and deserving parents who take good places in the annual Standard VI examination are given bursaries at Morija, Roma, and Masite, is proving its worth to the full. There is no doubt that in this way the right type of candidate is being selected, the type likely to take the good in higher native education and leave the bad.

Statistics.

The average attendance of pupils in schools and institutions is now 34,330 and the number of scholars on the roll is 46,606.

The following table shows the average attendance of pupils during the last ten years :—

Table I.

Year.	*Average Attendance.*	*Increase.*	*Decrease.*
1919	22,556	1,396	—
1920	23,479	932	—
1921	22,586	—	893
1922	23,424	838	—
1923	26,124	2,700	—
1924	29,267	3,143	—
1925	30,005	738	—
1926	33,074	3,069	—
1927	34,134	1,060	—
1928	34,330	196	—

Table II.

Grants to Missions for schools and institutions for the year ending 31st December, 1928, were as follows :—

	£
Paris Evangelical Society (Missionary)	24,832
Roman Catholic Mission	7,896
Church of England Mission	3,716
	£36,444

Table III.

Elementary and Intermediate Schools according to size and denomination :—

Mission.	*Over* 200	150 200	100 150	70 100	60 70	45 60	25 45	20 25	*Under* 20	*Total.*
P.E.M.S. ...	14	11	45	67	32	47	98	28	17	359
R.C.	9	3	11	11	14	17	38	3	7	113
C. of E. ...	1	1	7	6	10	14	13	5	3	60
Total	24	15	63	84	56	78	149	36	27	532
+ or − ...	+16	−15	−5	0	0	+3	+11	−12	+1	−1

The increases and decreases as compared with 1927 are given under each column. The increase in the number of large schools is due to the creation of Intermediate Schools. Of the above, 28 are Intermediate Schools and 504 Elementary Schools.

Table IV.

Enrolment of pupils in Intermediate and Elementary Schools :—

Mission.	*Average number of pupils on roll, year ending September, 1927.*			*Average number of pupils on roll, year ending September, 1928.*		
	Boys.	*Girls.*	*Total.*	*Boys.*	*Girls.*	*Total.*
P.E.M.S. ...	10,652	21,892	32,544	10,919	20,804	31,723
R.C. ...	2,145	6,825	8,970	2,418	7,218	9,636
C. of E. ...	1,507	3,178	4,685	1,418	2,968	4,386
Totals ...	14,304	31,895	46,199	14,755	30,990	45,745

The total of 45,745 is 454 less than in the previous year. This decrease is due to the creation of Intermediate Schools and to the fact that the Elementary Schools were not allowed to take Standard IV and above.

Table V.

Enrolment of pupils in Institutions :—

Mission.	*Institution.*	*Number of pupils on roll, September 1927.*			*Number of pupils on roll, September 1928.*		
		Boys.	*Girls.*	*Total.*	*Boys.*	*Girls.*	*Total.*
P.E.M.S. ...	Morija (Normal and Agr.).	138	—	138	133	—	133
P.E.M.S. ...	Th. Morena (Normal and Ind.).	—	31	31	—	46	46
P.E.M.S. ...	Cana (Industrial)	—	31	31	—	46	46
P.E.M.S. ...	Leloaleng (Ind. and Agr.).	56	—	56	47	—	47
R.C.	Roma (Normal, Indus. and Agr.).	141	307	448	183	326	509
C. of E. ...	Masite (Normal, Indus. and Agr.).	30	1	31	28	4	32
C. of E. ...	Maseru Industrial.	—	36	36	—	44	44
C. of E. ...	Hlotse Industrial.	—	—	—	—	29	29
	Totals ...	365	444	809	391	527	918

Table VI.

Average attendance of pupils at Elementary Schools :—

Mission.	*Year ending September 1927.*			*Year ending September 1928.*		
	Boys.	*Girls.*	*Total.*	*Boys.*	*Girls.*	*Total.*
P.E.M.S. ...	7,404	15,958	23,362	7,585	15,093	22,678
R.C. ...	1,540	5,181	6,721	1,780	5,604	7,384
C. of E. ...	1,033	2,334	3,367	1,123	2,356	3,479
Totals ...	9,977	23,473	33,450	10,488	23,053	33,541

European Schools.

The eight European schools, with a total attendance of approximately 115 pupils, received a grant of £1,900. These schools have good buildings and are well equipped. They provide elementary education and prepare pupils for schools outside Basutoland.

X. LABOUR.

The following figures give the number of passes issued to natives to leave the territory for labour purposes during the last two years :—

Year.	*Mines.*	*Railway Construction.*	*Agriculture.*	*Miscellaneous Labour.*	*Total.*
1927	24,880	173	9,507	23,407	57,967
1928	25,523	284	7,353	20,718	53,878

XI. VETERINARY.

Anthrax.

Thirty-six outbreaks of anthrax occurred during the year, being eight more than last year.

The policy of keeping all transport oxen inoculated on the western roads, particularly in the vicinity of anthrax-infected outspans which are known to exist, is being continued and altogether 43,911 animals have been inoculated. All inoculations have been carried out by trained members of the police force, and the ready co-operation of Assistant Commissioners and police officers in this matter has been much appreciated.

No anthrax was diagnosed amongst equines or sheep, and the absence of anthrax in sheep grazing on well-known infected pastures is rather remarkable, as experimentally the sheep is very susceptible to the anthrax bacillus.

Equine Mange.

As anticipated in the last report, the position of equine mange in the territory has greatly improved, and it is now a rare sight to see a case of mange.

The erection of more dipping tanks in the mountain areas has largely contributed to this end, and it is hoped that this disease will soon be a thing of the past.

During the year, 5,572 animals were treated for mange, but it is believed that many of these animals were suffering from lice and allied infections, the natives being educated to bring any horses suffering from loss of hair or itching for treatment immediately.

Last year 14,202 animals were treated, which clearly demonstrates the progress made.

Sheep Scab.

The past year has proved the most difficult since the scab campaign was brought into force. Owing to the severe drought, the spring and early summer of this year were almost the worst on record for sheep, with the result that many animals were in the advanced stages of poverty, rendering them very susceptible to the ravages of the scab mite. Flocks developing scab under these conditions proved very difficult to treat, as it was often found impracticable

to dip them owing to their poverty ; as a result, hand-dressing had to be resorted to, and experience has shown that this form of treatment is never satisfactory.

Associated with these severe grazing troubles there has been a great tendency for sheep to stray from infected areas to the lowlands in search of better veld, and this has been responsible for many serious recrudescences of scab in areas where none has existed for one, two, or three years.

The difficulties encountered this year have very forcibly demonstrated that scab can never be eradicated from the territory until the mountain areas have been tanked, and all evidence goes to show that there has been a most serious mortality owing to scab in un-tanked mountain areas.

Very real progress has, however, been made in this direction, and the Quthing, Mohale's Hoek, and Mafe ng districts have been completely equipped with dipping tanks during the year, and it is hoped that before the advent of the next winter the Maseru and Qacha's Nek districts will be in the same position.

The most serious factor in the scab campaign is the inefficiency of the native staff, many of the native dipping supervisors who have been in Government employment for three or four years—men who know their work thoroughly—proving the worst offenders. All of them appear to be subject to a peculiar type of mental lapse during which they are capable of the most serious neglect of duty ; recognising this, schools of instruction have been started and now take place at the end of each month. The Principal Veterinary Officer has drawn up a complete list of questions and the European scab inspector, when paying the native staff, puts them through this catechism, and there is reason to hope that this may improve matters.

The dismissal of a trained dipping supervisor is a great blow to the Department, as it takes several weeks of intense work to render the average Mosuto fit to take charge of a dipping tank.

During the year, twenty-six contracts for the erection of dipping tanks in the mountain areas were entered into, and some eleven tanks have been completed. All the tanks contracted for are situated at any altitude from 7,000 to 10,000 feet and the building period lasts only six months owing to frost, but the organisation of this work has never been better than it now is and it is hoped to complete all the contracts in the prescribed period. The principle of arranging for the contractor to take over the pack transport of all material from wagon-head to the site is a great improvement and has considerably reduced the worries of the scab inspector.

In view of the unreliability of the native dipping supervisors, the Veterinary Department has for some time past been in search of a dip that could be relied upon to cure scab without hand dressing as it is conceded that such a dip would considerably increase the possibilities of the complete eradication of scab from the territory.

In co-operation with Messrs. Cooper & Nephews, Ltd., a large experiment has been carried out in the mountain area to test a new dip which they have recently evolved and which they claim to be very efficient in the destruction of the scab mite. Some 15,000 sheep were treated with this new dip, 50 per cent. of the flocks being scab-infected, and no hand-dressing, other than the treatment of the ears and orbital fossae, was resorted to. These sheep will be subjected to a table inspection in March, and if, as the firm claims, this dip will clean them without hand-dressing, it will be of enormous value and will be adopted throughout the territory.

Bastard Sheep.

The campaign against the farming of bastard sheep in the territory has been much more successful than was anticipated. The propaganda work carried out by the European Scab Inspectors has been very energetically and efficiently done. They have preached the castration of all bastard rams and the consumption of bastard sheep, and the results have been surprising.

Coinciding with the destruction of the bastard ram, it was thought that the time was ripe to make an attempt to import good Merino rams and so enable flock-owners to purchase rams of the right type at a low price.

The Basutoland Chamber of Commerce were invited to co-operate with the scheme, and it was finally decided to allocate £500 for this work. Rams were to be purchased by traders after having been passed by the Veterinary Department, and no ram was to be sold to the native for more than £2, the Government paying the trader £1 on the sale of each ram.

Many good rams were imported, some of them when clipped produced fleeces of £1 in value, which meant that the native was able to get a good ram for £1. At the outset of the scheme rams sold readily, but eventually many traders were left with rams on their hands, and out of the £500 allocated only £329 has been spent.

This experiment has been a great disappointment as, given the whole-hearted support of the Basuto, an annual importation of 500 good Merino rams would revolutionise the quality of our wool and neutralise the ill-effects of incestuous breeding that takes place in the haphazard and careless methods of the average Mosuto farmer.

Stud.

The continuance of severe drought conditions has militated against stud work this season. There was a general absence of green grass in the spring and early summer, and mares were in poor condition.

Altogether 134 mares have been covered during the season and 67 proved to be in foal.

General.

The usual outbreaks of strangles, gallsickness, and biliary fever have been successfully treated.

During the year, 2,242,918 sheep and goats were dipped and over half a million were subjected to "table inspection." Sheep and goats exported from Basutoland to the various provinces of the Union totalled 8,683.

During the year, 2,066 professional visits and attendances were made by the Principal Veterinary Officer.

XII. MISCELLANEOUS.

The following proclamations were promulgated during the year:—

(1) No. 3.—Basutoland Auditor's Pension Proclamation, 1928.

(2) No. 5.—Basutoland Further Appropriation (1926–1927) Proclamation, 1928.

(3) No. 7.—Basutoland Customs Tariff (Amendment) Proclamation, 1928.

(4) No. 10.—Basutoland Court of Resident Commissioner Proclamation, 1928.

(5) No. 13.—Basutoland Appropriation Proclamation, 1928.

(6) No. 14.—Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1928.

(7) No. 17.—Amending Schedule to Proclamation No. 16 of 1907, to provide for the stamping of Auxiliary or Collateral Bonds.

(8) No. 26.—Establishing the Office of Crown Prosecutor in Basutoland.

(9) No. 27.—Amending the Basutoland Sheep and Goats Importation Restriction Proclamation, 1927.

(10) No. 28.—Basutoland Trading Proclamation, 1928.—Consolidating and amending the Law.

(11) No. 31.—Basutoland Police Offences Proclamation, 1928.

(12) No. 32.—Government Reserves Regulations (Basutoland) Proclamation, 1928.

R. M. BOSWORTH SMITH,

Government Secretary.

BASUTOLAND.

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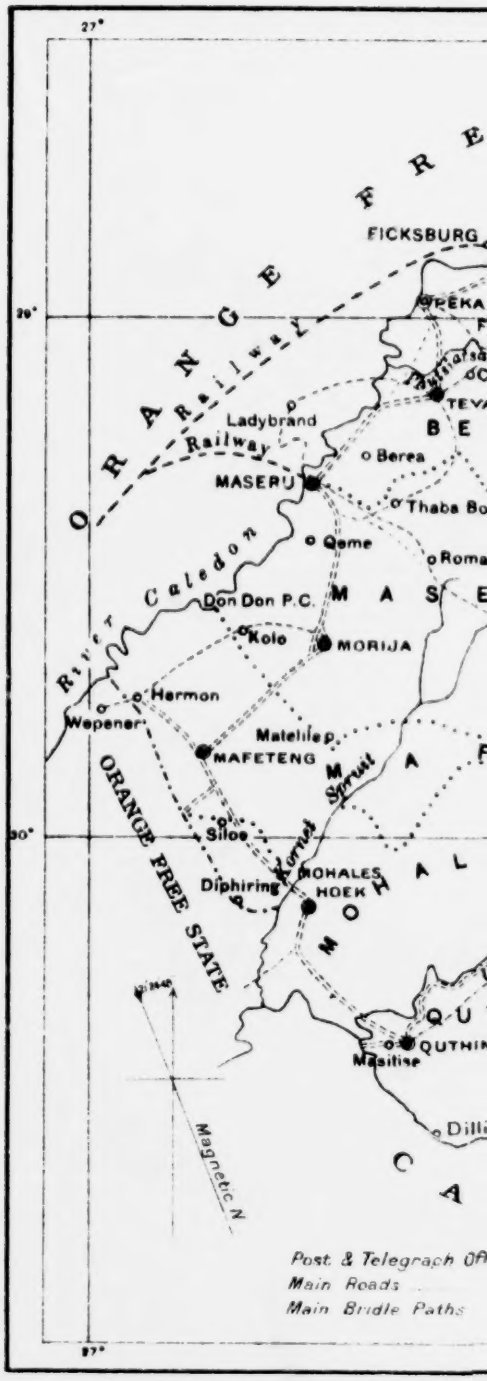
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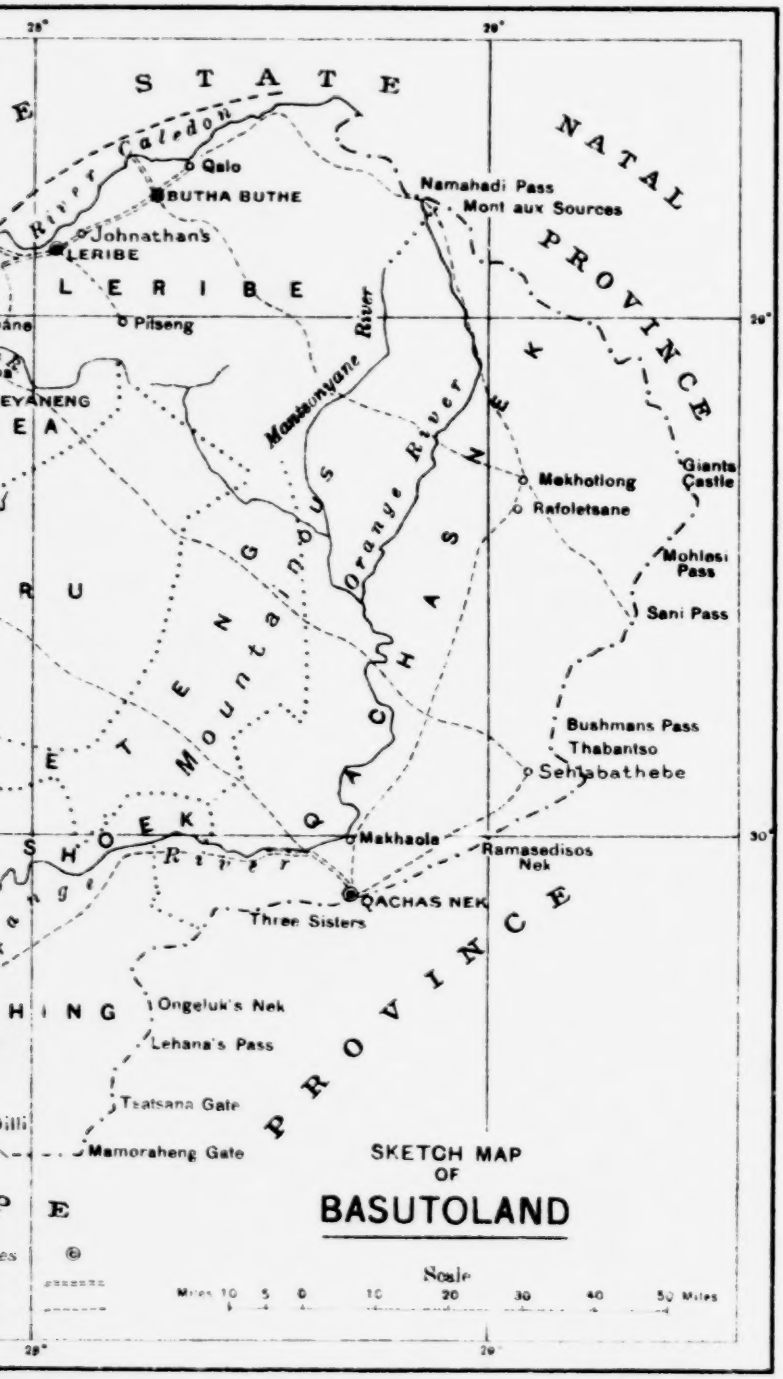

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REPORT FOR 1929.

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BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1929.*

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PREFATORY NOTE.

History and Geography.

Basutoland, which is a native territory in South Africa, is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, and on the south by the Cape Province. Its area is 11,716 square miles. It lies between 28° 35′ and 30° 40′ South latitude, and between 27° and 29° 30′ East longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 ft. to 11,000 ft. above sea-level, and the climate is, on the whole, healthy. The Maluti Mountains, which occupy most of the country to the east, in former years were reserved entirely as cattle and sheep-posts, but owing to the increase

* The financial information given in this Report is for the financial year ended 31st March, 1929.

in population the Basuto have found it necessary to migrate there, build villages, and cultivate the land, so that to-day this more or less inaccessible area is gradually becoming as thickly populated as the low-lying country to the west. The result of this invasion into the mountain area is the disappearance of all big game, such as eland and hartebeest, that used to abound some thirty years ago and the gradual elimination of the smaller buck, and all species of wild fowl.

In favourable seasons the territory produces wheat, maize, and kaffir corn, and to a smaller extent peas, beans, and other vegetables, while horse-breeding and the raising of cattle and sheep are profitable undertakings, especially the latter; the export of wool and mohair for this year amounting to 14,898,944 pounds weight, valued at £530,506 approximately.

In 1818 the first Paramount Chief of Basutoland, Moshesh, gathered together the various remnants of tribes which had become scattered about South Africa during the wars waged by Moselekatse, the King of the Matabele, and thus founded what has become the Basuto nation. The estimated native population is 550,000, while the Europeans, as taken in the last census in 1921, numbered 1,600.

In 1852 war broke out between Moshesh and the British Government; the Basuto were defeated by Sir G. Cathcart at the battle of the Berea Mountain, and Moshesh sent in his submission and made peace. A series of wars then took place from 1856 onwards between the Basuto and the inhabitants of the Orange Free State, and it was not until 1868, when he was hard pressed by the Boers, that Moshesh appealed to the British Government for help and the recognition of his people as British subjects. This was carried into effect by a Proclamation dated the 12th March, 1868, and the event is now commemorated by observing this date as a public holiday, known as "Moshoeshoe's Day." In 1871, however, the territory was annexed to the Cape Colony and, after various disturbances, the Government of the Cape in April, 1880, extended the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878 to Basutoland, which included a clause for the general disarmament of the Basuto. The Basuto, however, refused to accept the terms and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at by which the Act was repealed and certain fines inflicted on the tribe.

Although outwardly peace had been restored, there still remained several chiefs who would in no way accept the terms, and it was eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This was effected by Order in Council of 2nd February, 1884, which was proclaimed and brought into force by Proclamation 75A of 18th March, 1884. Since that date the territory has been governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for South Africa.

Languages.

The principal languages are English and Sesuto, although in the southern and south-eastern portions, other native languages are largely spoken.

Currency.

The coin in circulation is mainly South African, but late South African Republic coins are occasionally met with. Central Reserve Bank notes are brought into the territory, but the local Bank only re-issues the notes of joint stock banks. Gold coin is unlimited but the demand is negligible. During the year the Maseru Branch of the Standard Bank of South Africa exported £18,000 gold, £2,500 silver, and £25 copper. The figures for gold and silver show a substantial increase on those given last year.

It is considered that the amount of notes and coin in circulation will not be maintained as time goes on owing to increased spending by the native inhabitants, and the larger number who have learnt to deposit with the Bank ; but the amount of coin in circulation at the end of 1929 was between £40,000 and £50,000, and notes between £100,000 and £125,000.

The Imperial Coinage Act, 1920, is in force in the territory, re-enacted under High Commissioner's Notice No. 63 of 1920.

Weights and Measures.

The weights and measures in use in Basutoland are the British Imperial, but the Colonial ton of 2,000 lb. is also used.

I.—GENERAL.

Chief Rafolatsane of Mokhotlong died in September, and there has been some discussion amongst his people as to who is to succeed him.

The succession to the Leribe Chieftainship, which became vacant on the death of Chief Jonathan in September, 1928, was disputed by members of the family of the late Chief, and the uncertainty which prevailed as to the settlement of the succession gave rise to some feeling of unrest in the area concerned among the partisans of the rival claimants.

There were no faction fights of any serious nature during the year.

Two retirements from the Service took place during the year. Mr. A. T. Bond, Assistant Commissioner, retired in September and his post was filled by Captain T. B. Kennan, M.C. Mr. R. M. Bosworth Smith, C.B.E., retired from the office of Government Secretary on the 31st December, and Mr. F. L. Foord has since been appointed to the post.

His Excellency the High Commissioner paid a semi-official visit to the territory during the month of May.

Drought.—Although most promising rains fell at the close of the winter and in the early spring, the territory suffered a severe drought towards the end of the year, and the crop prospects are not too good.

The Assistant Commissioners' Conference.—The Assistant Commissioners of the territory held their annual Conference at Maseru during October, to discuss questions of administration which had arisen during the year.

The National Council.—The Twenty-Fourth Session of the Basutoland National Council was held at Maseru from the 12th to the 30th October, 1929. The following were the more important questions discussed :—

1. Reform of Native Courts.—After formal discussion, a Sub-Committee was appointed to go through the draft regulations framed by the Resident Commissioner, with a view to discussing the draft clause by clause, and making a recommendation at the end of their session to the full Council. The sitting of the Sub-Committee lasted for seven days, and the whole draft, with the exception of a few minor regulations, was rejected.

2. Consolidation of the Scab Regulations.

3. Deferred pay system at the mines—pleasing growth of—continued efforts.

4. Improvement of the quality of wool and mohair.

II.—FINANCE.

The revenue for the financial year ended 31st March, 1929, amounted to £339,892, and the expenditure to £316,577, an excess of revenue over expenditure of £23,315.

The balance of assets in excess of liabilities at the 31st March, 1929, was £58,974, in addition to which there is a reserved surplus of £70,000 inclusive of the Swaziland loan.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure during the past five financial years :—

Revenue.

Head.	*1924–25*	*1925–26*	*1926–27*	*1927–28*	*1928–29*
	£	£	£	£	£
Native Tax	127,531	139,776	132,072	137,744	141,719
Customs and Excise	76,765	84,196	87,352	92,201	96,072
Posts and Telegraphs	8,520	8,428	7,648	8,466	9,181
Licences	7,928	7,766	8,758	8,938	9,206
Fees of Court or Office	906	1,084	933	956	1,094
Judicial Fines	1,991	3,022	1,911	2,629	2,515
Income Tax	12,997	13,759	10,784	12,843	16,022
Fees for services rendered	1,484	1,386	1,278	1,159	1,296
Interest	1,735	1,819	2,158	2,275	3,670
Wool Export Duty	17,189	15,421	17,141	17,918	33,976
Miscellaneous	3,962	4,915	4,369	7,913	10,038
Education Levy	—	—	—	13,357	15,103
Totals	£261,008	£281,572	£274,404	£306,399	£339,892

Expenditure.

Head.	*1924–25*	*1925–26*	*1926–27*	*1927–28*	*1928–29*
	£	£	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner	13,692	13,829	13,811	12,532	13,099
District Administration	12,791	13,091	13,690	13,619	14,118
Police	36,756	37,507	39,164	39,160	38,357
Administration of Justice	11,078	11,659	11,194	12,379	11,764
Posts and Telegraphs	10,118	10,458	11,676	11,118	11,568
Public Works Department	5,665	5,616	5,218	5,147	5,239
Public Works Recurrent	22,153	23,778	25,669	23,044	29,502
Public Works Extraordinary	2,383	8,820	6,872	3,671	2,747
Medical	22,795	21,548	22,617	26,121	25,676
Education	35,836	40,113	41,412	54,871	58,596
Lerotholi Technical School	2,429	2,486	2,508	6,566	6,658
Agriculture	22,927	28,780	27,659	30,874	39,178
Allowances to Chiefs	12,323	11,994	11,691	12,002	12,562
National Council	2,193	2,037	1,909	1,641	1,762
Leper Settlement	19,077	19,306	19,401	19,558	19,238
Pensions	6,812	7,599	10,030	11,797	11,828
Miscellaneous	6,955	9,455	6,076	6,970	7,998
Capital Expenditure	4,214	—	2,030	3,804	6,687
Totals	£250,197	£268,076	£272,627	£294,874	£316,577

Income Tax.

The rates of normal and super tax remained the same as during the preceding financial year, and were imposed by the Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1925. The only enactment during the year under review dealing with Income Tax was the Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1929 (No. 41 of 1929), which, in levying the tax for the twelve months ending 30th June, 1929, promulgated certain amendments to the Principal Law with the proviso that they should first take effect in respect of this period. The principal amendment was that the rebate in respect of children was raised to £75, and the age in respect of which the rebate could be claimed, to 21 years of age. This, however, did not affect the Income Tax collected in the financial year 1928–29, which was in respect of the twelve months ended 30th June, 1928, and was made up as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Arrear Normal Tax	591	4	6
Current Normal Tax	11,606	0	9
Arrear Super Tax	347	9	0
Current Super Tax	3,476	18	5
	£16,021	12	8

The following table shows the sources from which taxable incomes were derived and the amount of tax paid from each source, and also compares the collections with the previous year :—

Source.	*1927–1928* £	s.	d.	*1928–1929* £	s.	d.	*+ or —* £	s.	d.
General Traders	9,803	0	9	11,853	10	4	+ 2,050	9	7
Civil Servants	1,157	19	3	1,176	10	8	+ 18	11	5
Employed Persons	1,012	14	2	574	3	9	— 438	10	5
Others, including Bank	467	0	4	1,246	12	9	+ 779	12	5
Non-Residents	402	6	5	1,170	15	2	+ 768	8	9
	£12,843	0	11	£16,021	12	8	+ £3,178	11	9

The number of incomes assessed for current tax in the various categories were :—

Number.	*Category.*	*Total of Taxable Income.* £
36	£500 and under.	13,172
52	£501 to £750	32,250
28	£751 to £1,000	24,457
33	£1,001 to £1,500	41,309
8	£1,501 to £2,000	13,744
9	£2,001 to £4,000	24,763
7	Over £4,000	67,407
173	Total taxable income of persons assessed for current tax.	£217,102

III.—PRODUCTION.

AGRICULTURE.

Locust Destruction.—There has been no invasion of Basutoland by flying swarms of locusts since 1923, nor has there been any hatching out of *voetgangers* in this territory. No solitary brown locusts, which might breed up and finally form swarms have been noticed or reported to the Agricultural Officer. The Maseru Reserve has been fairly clear of the " Elegant Grasshopper " this year.

Agricultural Shows.—An amount of £760 was provided for agricultural shows, which were held in all the districts as usual, and in addition small shows were started at Butha Buthe and Peka, which were most successful. A much keener competition has been noticeable for the past few years in the produce classes. This can, without a doubt, be attributed to the work of the demonstrators, who are creating that spirit of competition which is so necessary for the improvement of agriculture.

Donga Prevention.—The aim of the Department in this direction during the year was to endeavour to maintain the work that had already been completed. Several methods have been utilized in the past in all parts of the territory to combat the continual erosion of the soil by donga formations

It was the purpose of the Agricultural Department to instil into the native mind the loss of the richest soil that dongas continually and increasingly caused. Unfortunately, as was the case in other agricultural matters, it was found that the natives derived little benefit from this instruction ; and it was seldom that any attempt was made in their own villages to carry out the instructions. Hence, after considerable thought and in the light of experience gained, the Department made a thorough alteration in its instructional methods. Briefly, under the new plan, the native was taught better methods of agriculture viewed as a whole, in the hope that a knowledge of the whole subject would encourage and enable them to realize the real importance of donga prevention. For this purpose a number of native demonstrators have since been employed, who give lectures and ocular demonstration, so that the people may take a livelier interest in a subject of so much importance to them. They are shown the value of planting suitable trees where dongas have already formed, and the danger of careless ploughing and of having many needless cattle paths on land that is as yet free from erosion.

In spite of all this, however, there is no definite improvement to be reported, and fresh dongas are continually being formed and allowed to grow, without any effort on the part of the natives to combat their progress.

Tree Planting.—Tree nurseries are provided in the chief camps for the purpose of distributing trees free of charge to all natives and Europeans living in Basutoland. Although every facility is given

the Basuto to encourage him to undertake tree planting on a bigger scale, the response is not yet all that might be wished for. There are, however, a number of small plantations all over the territory that have been planted since the war and are now beginning to show up well.

At the close of the year there were some 157,800 trees in the various Government nurseries. During the year 53,794 trees were issued to natives and others and 9,202 trees were planted in the various Government reserves.

Agricultural Associations.—The Department is aiming to foster the formation of these associations amongst the Basuto throughout Basutoland, with the idea of teaching the natives to take an interest in agriculture, to meet together to discuss agricultural questions and to help themselves without always expecting Government assistance for every little improvement made in their agricultural methods.

Agricultural Demonstrators.—Demonstration work was first started in Basutoland in 1924 with four Demonstrators, and the number employed has gradually risen to fifteen. They are all young men who have passed the Agricultural Diploma of one or other of the recognized Native Agricultural Schools in the Union of South Africa, and are distributed in each district and sub-district in the territory. Demonstrators are also stationed at Roma, Morija, and Leloaleng Training Institutions and the Lerotholi Technical School, Maseru, where demonstration lands are worked, and where agricultural apprentices are trained and the pupils given a course of agricultural lectures.

The general work of all demonstrators is to give lectures on subjects such as the selection of seed, planting and proper cultivation of the various crops grown throughout their districts shortly before these operations take place. They also undertake the working of various native lands to show a contrast between them and the ordinary lands worked by the natives themselves. In a good season a demonstrator works from 25 to 30 lands and obtains an increase of from 50 to 100 per cent.

Experimental work is also being carried out with the use of superphosphate and nitrate of soda. The application of superphosphate has been found most beneficial, a land thus fertilized yielding an increase in the region of 100 per cent. over an unfertilized land which has otherwise been treated in the same way. Nitrate of soda plots have been disappointing. Better results have been obtained on plots thus treated than on unmanured plots, but, on the whole, the experiments have been spoilt during the last two seasons by droughts occurring when the mealies were flowering.

Forestry, Fisheries, and Mining.

There are no natural forests in Basutoland and no fisheries. No mining operations are carried on.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The following is a return of the imports into, and exports from the territory by general traders during the calendar year, 1929, the figures for 1928 being given for the purposes of comparison :—

IMPORTS.

	1928		*1929*	
	No.	*Value.*	*No.*	*Value.*
		£		£
MERCHANDISE	—	881,767	—	669,008
Livestock.—				
Horses, Mules, etc.	1,350	1,855	251	501
Cattle	4,772	11,239	2,428	6,351
Sheep and Goats	716	1,541	149	207
Grain.—	*Muids.*		*Muids.*	
Wheat and Wheat Meal... ...	6,920	10,460	5,415	8,837
Maize and Maize Meal	15,289	10,925	25,049	17,398
Kaffir Corn	3,399	3,124	4,315	3,030
Other Produce	—	663	—	1,084
Totals ...	—	£921,574	—	£706,416

EXPORTS.

	1928		*1929*	
	No.	*Value.*	*No.*	*Value.*
Livestock.—		£		£
Horses, Mules, etc.	32	233	104	534
Cattle	1,538	7,165	1,496	6,678
Sheep and Goats	—	—	26	25
Grain.—	*Muids.*		*Muids.*	
Wheat and Wheat Meal... ...	118,280	131,414	72,103	64,408
Maize and Maize Meal	100,774	59,295	87,404	42,144
Kaffir Corn	30,969	18,530	37,056	21,334
Oats	55	37	—	—
Barley	138	86	90	50
Beans and Peas	2,371	3,166	4,312	5,461
Wool and Mohair.—	*Lb.*		*Lb.*	
Wool	12,725,153	610,750	12,937,198	436,083
Mohair	1,921,189	139,484	1,961,746	94,352
Hides and Skins.—				
Hides	607,428	31,817	445,286	15,126
Skins	406,480	11,002	365,039	8,327
Miscellaneous	—	413	—	272
Totals	—	£1,013,392	—	£694,794

Other Statistics.

Government imports during the year amounted to £54,686 as compared with £50,059 in 1928.

The total export of wool and mohair during the year amounted to 17,037,600 lb., of which 14,898,944 lb. was exported by general traders.

General.

All imports by traders are made through wholesale firms in the Union of South Africa or by direct indent with wholesale houses overseas, and all exports are to the Union of South Africa. It is therefore impossible to give the origin of goods imported or the ultimate destination of goods exported.

With the exception of fuel, soap, motor oil and petrol, which are purchased in the Union, all Government imports are made through the Crown Agents for the Colonies in London.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Railways.

There is only a small branch line on the Bloemfontein-Natal main line, from Marseilles to Maseru, only one mile of which is in Basutoland.

Roads and Bridges.

During the year re-gravelling and re-shaping work has been carried on almost continuously on the main or "A" roads. In many sections, low-lying portions have been raised, and considerable improvement to the alignment of the road has been effected. Attention has also been directed, to a greater extent than in previous years, to improving the drainage of the roads and a number of concrete pipe-drains have been built under the roads. Improvements in the side drainage have also been carried out. It will not be possible to complete the drainage of the roads satisfactorily for a number of years, but the progress made so far will be maintained and, it is hoped, accelerated in the future.

In the north, heavy constructional work, entailing considerable rock blasting, has been carried out on the Libono Road, which will be completed early during the coming year.

While it may be said that the roads of the north have improved generally during the year, the difficulty of obtaining road gravel within reasonable distance makes maintenance and constructional work slow and expensive. The roads in the south are more fortunate in this respect; yet here, too, the long leads and slow oxen transport delay constructional work to a serious extent.

The " B " or " feeder " roads are still in a bad state of repair, but an endeavour is now being made to give them more constant attention.

During December heavy rains did considerable damage to the roads and causeways, mainly in the Leribe, Berea, and Mafeteng districts. The damage has been made good as far as is possible, but it is hoped to replace some of the causeways during the coming year by the construction of large culverts.

The main road from the railway station into Maseru has now been completed in a sound and durable manner.

The bridges in the territory have been maintained satisfactorily, and during the year a new floor of ferrocrete concrete has been laid on the Peka Bridge. The drift at Caledon's Poort has been rendered impassable during the last few months by continuous rains, and the construction of a bridge over the Caledon River in this neighbourhood in the near future is under consideration.

A bridge over the Tsoelike River, 20 miles from Qacha's Nek, has been undertaken departmentally. The stone masonry abutments have been completed and now the girder-work of a span of 210 feet suspension is in process of erection.

Postal.

All districts in Basutoland are linked up with Maseru by telegraph and telephone lines, with the exception of Qacha's Nek which is connected by telegraph and telephone to Matatiele in East Griqualand. The systems are owned by the Basutoland Government. Both telegraph and telephones are used by the general public and public telephone call offices are attached to each post office.

There are ten telegraph offices in the territory and 154¾ miles of telegraph wire. During 1929 telegraph messages numbering 59,651 were dealt with as follows :—cables, 241 ; Government telegrams, 3,692 ; ordinary, 21,173 ; transmitted, 13,764 ; received, 20,781.

There are ten central telephone offices with telephones in service. The length of local exchange wire is 84¼ miles and long-distance wire 573½ miles.

The following table shows the number of deposits in, and withdrawals from, the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years :—

		Deposits.	*Withdrawals.*
1927–28	=	1,845, value £9,187.	867, value £6,540
1928–29	=	2,218, value £9,874.	956, value £8,130

The following table shows the number and value of money and postal orders issued and paid during the past two years :—

		Issued.	*Paid.*
1927–28	=	32,597, value £29,905.	47,427, value £53,377.
1928–29	=	33,231, value £29,369.	41,950, value £48,232.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Administration of Justice.

During 1928 a Judicial Commissioner was appointed as President of the Court of the Resident Commissioner. This was promulgated by Proclamation No. 10 of 1928, which amended Proclamation No. 2B of 1884.

During the year 1929, 2,771 crimes were reported or known to the police, the number of persons proceeded against being 2,252, as compared with 2,914 and 2,737, respectively, for the year 1928. Convictions in Magisterial Courts numbered 1,804 and in the Resident Commissioner's Court 94, as compared with 2,162 and 37, respectively, in 1928.

The following table shows the number of convictions for various crimes and offences during the last four years :—

In Magisterial Courts.	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*
Offences against the person ...	97	287	438	213
Offences against property ...	244	272	253	221
Offences against liquor laws ...	52	37	42	57
Other crimes	1,409	1,484	1,429	1,313
In the Resident Commissioner's Court.	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*
Murder	6	1	1	6
Culpable homicide	38	24	20	30
Attempted murder	—	1	4	5
Rape	2	—	2	5
Unnatural crime	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the person	11	4	2	1
Offences against property with violence to the person.	298	48	4	33
Other offences against property...	41	15	3	14
Other crimes	1	—	—	—

Police.

The Basutoland Mounted Police is maintained under the Basutoland Proclamation No. 12 of 1921. The Force is under the control of the Resident Commissioner, who is also the Commandant, with a Staff Officer resident at Maseru.

There is a training depot for all recruits at Maseru under the supervision of the Staff Officer, with a Warrant Officer as Drill Instructor, a native Sergeant-Major, and a native non-commissioned officer.

Finger-print work is also carried out at Maseru and is under the charge of a Warrant Officer qualified in this work.

Mounted detachments of the Force are stationed in Maseru, and in the various districts of the territory, under the command of the European officers of the establishment who are responsible for the general police routine being carried out within their districts and for the efficiency of their respective detachments.

The establishment of the Force is as follows :—

Europeans :—

Inspectors	6	(one of whom is Staff Officer).
Sub-Inspectors ...	6	
Warrant Officers ...	2	(1 Chief Constable, 1 vacancy).
	14	

Native Police :—

Sergeant-Major ...	1
Sergeants	14
Corporals	15
Privates	309
	339
Total all ranks ...	353

Depot.—As there is no surplus strength kept at the Depot recruits are only sent there for training after vacancies have been filled. Refresher courses are undertaken from drafts from the districts sent in from time to time. During 1929, 23 recruits were passed through and 89 men reported for refresher courses.

Finger-print Work.—This branch continues to do valuable service by supplying the Courts with the previous criminal history of accused persons whose finger-prints are sent in for identification. During the year, over 700 finger impressions were received for search. In addition to ordinary criminal work, search was made on behalf of other departments to ensure that persons desirous of employment had no serious criminal conviction registered against them.

Health of Police.—During the year the health of the police has been good. It is regretted that two deaths occurred among the native staff early in the year.

Conduct of Police.—As strict discipline has to be, and is, maintained, native members of the staff who are guilty of repeated misconduct are generally dismissed. Ten discharges are recorded during the year for unsatisfactory conduct ; otherwise the conduct of the police has been very good.

Condition of Troop Horses.—Considering the extensive patrol work performed by the native members of the Force, and the droughty conditions which prevailed in many of the districts, the horses have maintained their condition remarkably well. Nine deaths were reported during the year, and compensation was paid to the owners, it being the practice that horses are privately owned but fed at Government expense, each man's horse being registered for insurance purposes.

Work performed by Police.—The following is a summary of the routine work carried out during the year :—

Crimes reported to the Police	2,771
Persons prosecuted	2,252
Persons convicted	1,898
Miscellaneous inquiries, etc.	981

Apart from the ordinary routine, the Police were called upon to perform extraneous duties, such as assisting in the collection of Hut Tax, Wool Tax, providing prison guards, clerical assistance in various District offices, and services in the Medical and Veterinary Departments.

Crime.—In the year under review there were less crimes of violence dealt with than in the previous year, but there was a slight increase in the contravention of the Liquor Laws. The long section of the border, which it is impossible to police regularly, gives the smugglers ample scope, but every endeavour is being made to combat the evil.

Stock theft still continues to be a grave menace to the stock-owners, and prosecutions appear to be about the same as in previous years. Further co-operation on the part of the chiefs with the police would be a benefit in the detection of this crime.

In respect of crimes of a less serious nature, the figures for the year show a slight decrease.

A summary of criminal statistics for the year is shown under the heading, "Justice."

Prisons.

There are nine gaols and one lock-up in the territory, and 2,643 prisoners passed through them during the year, as compared with 2,597 in 1928.

For several years past all juvenile offenders of from 15 to 20 years of age have been sent to serve their sentences at the Peka Gaol where they are under the close supervision of the officer-in-charge, who reports that their conduct and work during the year has been satisfactory.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Extensive repairs to Government buildings have been undertaken during the year at Mafeteng, Mohales Hoek, and the Leper Settlement compounds, while numerous smaller repairs and works, such as native sheep inspectors' quarters and police stabling, have been undertaken in the various camps.

Two additional rooms were built on to the existing laundry at the Maseru Hospital by the Lerotholi Technical School, and a new room has been added to the Agricultural Officer's quarters. At the Leper Settlement, additions have been made to the Medical Officer's offices and consulting room, and alterations effected to the female

dining hall and the laboratory. In Mafeteng a new up-to-date Residency has been built in stone with iron roof, at a cost of approximately £2,700.

Water Works.

Owing to the difficulty experienced in maintaining adequate supplies of water in the camps during periods of drought, it was decided to put down a number of bore-holes throughout the territory, to supplement the supplies gravitated from springs outside the camps. Five holes were sunk at Berea during the year, and it is hoped that they will supply sufficient water for the needs of the camp. Holes have also been sunk at Butha Buthe and Peka, and the work will continue during next year at Maseru, Mafeteng and Mohales Hoek.

The Maseru River water pumping plant is getting very old, and it is now only possible to get a delivery of 2,000 gallons instead of 12,000 per hour. The average daily supply of water gravitated to the reservoir is 30,000 gallons.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

During the year 1929, 2,479 patients, 99 of whom were Europeans, were treated in the various hospitals. Although this number is 147 more than in 1928, there is still a decrease as compared with 1927. Deaths amounted to 157. The surgical work was well maintained. The wife of the Paramount Chief underwent a severe abdominal operation in Maseru but made a fine recovery.

The number of cases treated in the out-patients' department was 59,565, showing a decrease of 6,525 as compared with the figures for 1928, which was probably due to the increased rainfall. 3,857 people were vaccinated against smallpox and quite a number inoculated against typhoid fever.

The revenue collected in hospital and dispensary fees was £2,646 13s. 3d. The following table details the above-quoted total :—

District.	*In-Patients.*	*Out-Patients.*	*	*Vaccinations.*	*Revenue.* £	s.	d.
Maseru	899	9,212	4,314	—	870	6	9
Leribe	504	7,639	3,015	3	513	17	9
Mafeteng	374	7,789	4,620	—	471	10	6
Mohales Hoek	274	3,970	1,318	—	193	12	6
Quthing	242	5,080	2,154	870	265	4	3
Qacha's Nek	186	3,003	1,211	2,984	130	0	0
Berea	—	5,002	1,238	—	202	1	6
Totals	2,479	41,695	17,870*	3,857	£2,646	13	3

* Denotes subsequent attendance at dispensary.

The general health of the territory has been distinctly good, since there were fewer cases of epidemic disease and less patients attended the dispensaries than in former years. The cases of enteric fever totalled less than half of those reported last year, and only one case of scarlet fever was reported during 1929. There were, however, five more cases of typhus fever than in 1928; and eight cases of smallpox were treated. The figures for epidemic, endemic, and infectious diseases for the year, are as follows:—

Typhoid	255
Typhus	38
Smallpox	8
Measles	82
Scarlet Fever	1
Whooping Cough	444
Influenza	584
Dysentery	151
Anthrax	31
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	263

There were no cases of diphtheria and, were people to bury whole instead of skinning and eating animals which have died from anthrax, there would be no incidence of this disease either. It is proposed in the future to adopt a treatment by injection for syphilis which will, perhaps, after a while diminish the number of cases of this malady.

Cyano gas has been tried for destroying rodents on the veldt in and around Maseru Camp, and has proved quite effective. It can, however, be used only over a small area.

The gaols throughout the territory, when inspected, were clean, and there has been no outbreak of serious disease among the inmates. Three executions were carried out in Maseru during the year.

The sanitation throughout the territory is satisfactory, and the conveniences therefor are being gradually increased.

An abattoir is being constructed in Maseru which should prove a great benefit.

Leper Settlement.

On the 31st December, 1928, the population of the Settlement was 526, consisting of 243 males and 283 females. On the 31st December, 1929, there were 291 males and 338 females, making a total of 629, showing an increase of population of 103.

The changes of the population throughout the year are indicated in the following table:—

	Admitted.	*Re-admitted.*	*Died.*	*Deserted.*	*Discharged.*
Males	93	6	30	5	16
Females	91	8	19	5	20
Totals	184	14	49	10	36

The following is the corresponding table for the year 1928 :—

	Admitted.	*Re-admitted.*	*Died.*	*Deserted.*	*Discharged.*
Males	58	9	21	5	35
Females	57	7	14	6	20
Totals	115	16	35	11	55

The increase in the number of patients admitted was 69. There was a decrease in the number of those re-admitted of 2, an increase of 14 in those who died, a decrease of 1 in those who deserted, and a decrease of 19 in those who were discharged. The substantial increase in the number of admissions is doubtless the result of the work of the two Health and Welfare Inspectors appointed during the year, whose duty it is to travel the country looking for cases of this disease. Further, the chiefs are taking a more active part in finding and reporting cases ; also legal action has been taken where it has been proved that lepers have been hidden away.

During the year the inmates of the Asylum were, on the whole, well-behaved and contented. The influence of the old residents on the large number of new-comers was good, and the latter have settled down peacefully to life in the Asylum.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Education in Basutoland is under the supervision of a Director of Education, a Senior Inspector of Schools, three European Inspectors, and four Native Supervisors.

The majority of schools are Government-aided schools under missionary control. Two Government schools, one at Maseru and one at Mafeteng, were opened during 1929 to provide for scholars in Standards IV, V, and VI. The only other school under Government management is the Lerotholi Technical School at Maseru.

The total number of Government and Government-aided schools is 547, of which 10 are Institutions (Normal, Industrial, and Agricultural), 38 are Intermediate Schools, and 499 are Elementary Vernacular Schools.

The number of pupils on the roll for 1929 was 49,468 and the average attendance was 36,759. The Education vote for the year ending 31st March, 1930, was £49,508 and the balance in the Education Fund is estimated at over £20,000.

European Education.

There are eight small primary schools in the territory, with a total attendance of a little over 100 pupils, to provide for the elementary education of the children in the various camps. These schools are managed by local committees and are supported by the Government.

A detailed report on Education is being published separately.

X.—LABOUR.

The following figures give the number of passes issued to natives to leave the territory for labour purposes during the last two years :—

Year.	*Mines.*	*Railway Construction.*	*Agriculture.*	*Miscellaneous Labour.*	*Total.*
1928	25,523	284	7,353	20,718	53,878
1929	28,705	449	13,483	32,125	74,762

The substantial increase in the number of those seeking work outside the territory, as it represents in inverse proportion the economic prosperity of the country, supports what has already been said in regard to the comparative failure of the crops during the year.

XI.—VETERINARY.

Anthrax.

During the year, 16 outbreaks of anthrax have occurred and 34,494 doses of anthrax vaccine have been issued. The seasonal fluctuations of outbreaks of this disease are difficult to understand, and this year there has been a gratifying decrease of 20 outbreaks ; it is very doubtful, however, if this denotes that any marked headway has been made in the clearing up of the many infected areas.

As many of the outspans are recognized to be badly anthrax-infected areas, the inoculation of all transport oxen is rigorously enforced and, no doubt, is a helpful factor in reducing the distribution of anthrax infection. In no outbreak were any serious losses sustained, and the prompt employment of the Union Government vaccine invariably shut down the incidence of further cases.

Equine Mange.

The position of equine mange has continued to improve, and, except in those mountain areas where no tanks exist or where unowned horses have gone wild, very few well-defined cases have been seen during the year.

It is now the custom for dipping supervisors of tanks to have a periodical round up of the local horses for inspection, and should there be any evidence of itching, loss of hair, etc., the owners are requested to bring their animals to the tank for treatment. During 1929, 3,796 animals were treated, as compared with 5,572 in 1928.

Sheep Scab.

The spring of 1929 was a very pleasant contrast to that of 1928 and, with good winter rains, sheep free from scab remained in good condition, and sheep-owners had a very good lambing. In the mountain areas, where no dipping tanks existed, however, the loss

in sheep was very heavy, the wet winter and spring being apparently very favourable to the spread of the scab mite, and a number of large sheep-owners lost their entire crop of lambs owing to the ravages of scab. It is this fact that makes the erection of a tank in the mountains so welcome.

During the year there have been many setbacks to the scab eradication campaign, the outcome of the constant movements, despite all the efforts to control them, of infected sheep from untanked areas into clean ones. Until it is possible to ensure that no scabby sheep can be moved from one area to another there is no hope of finally eradicating scab, and this can only be brought about when the entire territory is supplied with dipping tanks. Fortunately, that desirable goal is about to be achieved.

During the year, contracts were given for the erection of 27 new tanks in the mountain areas, as follows :—11 in Mokhotlong, 5 in Leribe, 5 in Butha Buthe, 1 in Qacha's Nek, 4 in Berea, and 1 in Maseru districts. Every effort is being made to have these tanks completed before the end of the financial year. The transport of material for tanks in the Mokhotlong area has been a formidable undertaking, which will be readily understood when 1,100 pack animals were employed to transport the material for the 11 new tanks in this district.

The policy of subjecting all clean areas to a table inspection and the simultaneous dipping of all infected areas at the completion of the lambing and shearing seasons has again been enforced. 785,164 sheep and goats were subjected to a simultaneous inspection and none of these was found to be infected. During the year, 2,986,021 sheep and goats were dipped, being an increase of 664,100 on the number dipped in 1928.

All sheep in the Quthing, Mohales Hoek, Mafeteng, Maseru, and Sehlabathebe areas are now under the Scab Law, and it is hoped that by next year the Berea, Leribe, Mokhotlong, and Butha Buthe districts will be in a similar position, leaving about 15 more tanks to be completed in order to bring the whole territory under the Scab Law.

During the year the shortcomings of the native staff have not decreased and there is no doubt whatever that this is the weakest spot in the scab campaign. As a rule they are unreliable, disinterested, and apathetic, and few of them show any ambition or pride in their work. Native scab inspectors were appointed to the Berea and Leribe districts during the year, and although 192 dipping supervisors are employed, very few of them show any suitability for the position of native scab inspectors.

The proposed alteration in the original Scab Law was discussed at the National Council this year, and was finally agreed to. The amended Law will, it is hoped, prove comprehensive, and a model for any native territory.

Parasiticism in Sheep.

Much propaganda work has been done during the year in attempting to make the sheep-owners realize the heavy annual losses that occur through the prevalence of worms in their flocks of sheep and goats. 5,000 pamphlets on the subject were distributed, and wire worm remedy was offered at 1s. a tin sufficient to dose 150 sheep. There was, however, no marked response to these efforts.

As a result of serious complaints in regard to the quality and length of Basutoland mohair from the brokers and manufacturers, the Principal Veterinary Officer met the buyers of Basutoland mohair at Port Elizabeth, and discussed the position with them. A great effort is being made in co-operation with the Basutoland Chamber of Commerce to rectify these troubles. 5,000 pamphlets in Sesuto have been distributed throughout the territory, and the Veterinary staff lose no opportunity of talking to Angora goat breeders on this question.

General.

Owing to the apparent increase in population there has been a growing tendency in the past 20 years for natives to remove from the lowlands and reside in the Malutis. These people naturally wish to grow food, the soil and climate of the mountain area being suitable for wheat-growing, but unfortunately in many cases no judgment has been displayed in the selection of sites for ploughing purposes, and it is quite a common sight to see natives breaking up the finest sheep veld on the precipitous sides of the mountains. The result of this is that these lands often do not last for more than a few years, as heavy thunderstorms start to wash them away and dongas commence to form. Another very serious aspect of this ploughing is the destruction of the natural and legitimate grazing grounds of the sheep which are moved into other already overstocked pastures. The result is that considerable areas of the very best sheep grazing are now being invaded by inedible weeds and thus seriously reducing the sheep-carrying capacity of the country.

Strangles has been very prevalent among the horses, and the usual cases of gall-sickness and biliary fever have been successfully treated.

During the year, 2,146 professional visits and attendances were made by the Principal Veterinary Officer.

Stud.

During the season, 127 mares were covered by the Government stallions. Of the 113 mares covered in 1928, 37 proved in foal, a clear indication of the abnormally bad spring of that year. Better results are hoped for in 1930, as the mares were presented in better condition, the result of the early spring rains.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The following Proclamations were promulgated during the year :—

(1) No. 4.—Basutoland Extradition and Fugitive Offenders (South West Africa) Proclamation, 1929.

(2) No. 11.—Basutoland Pass Laws Exemption Proclamation, 1929.

(3) No. 16.—Amending Basutoland Police Offences Proclamation, No. 31 of 1928.

(4) No. 20.—Extending in certain respects the jurisdiction which may be conferred upon Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors of Police in Basutoland under Proclamation No. 1 of 1912.

(5) No. 22.—Basutoland further Appropriation (1927–28) Proclamation, 1929.

(6) No. 26.—Basutoland Customs and Excise Duties (Amendment) Proclamation, 1929.

(7) No. 30.—Amending in certain respects the Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement) Proclamation No. 75 of 1921.

(8) No. 36.—Basutoland Appropriation (1929–30) Proclamation, 1929.

(9) No. 41.—Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1929.

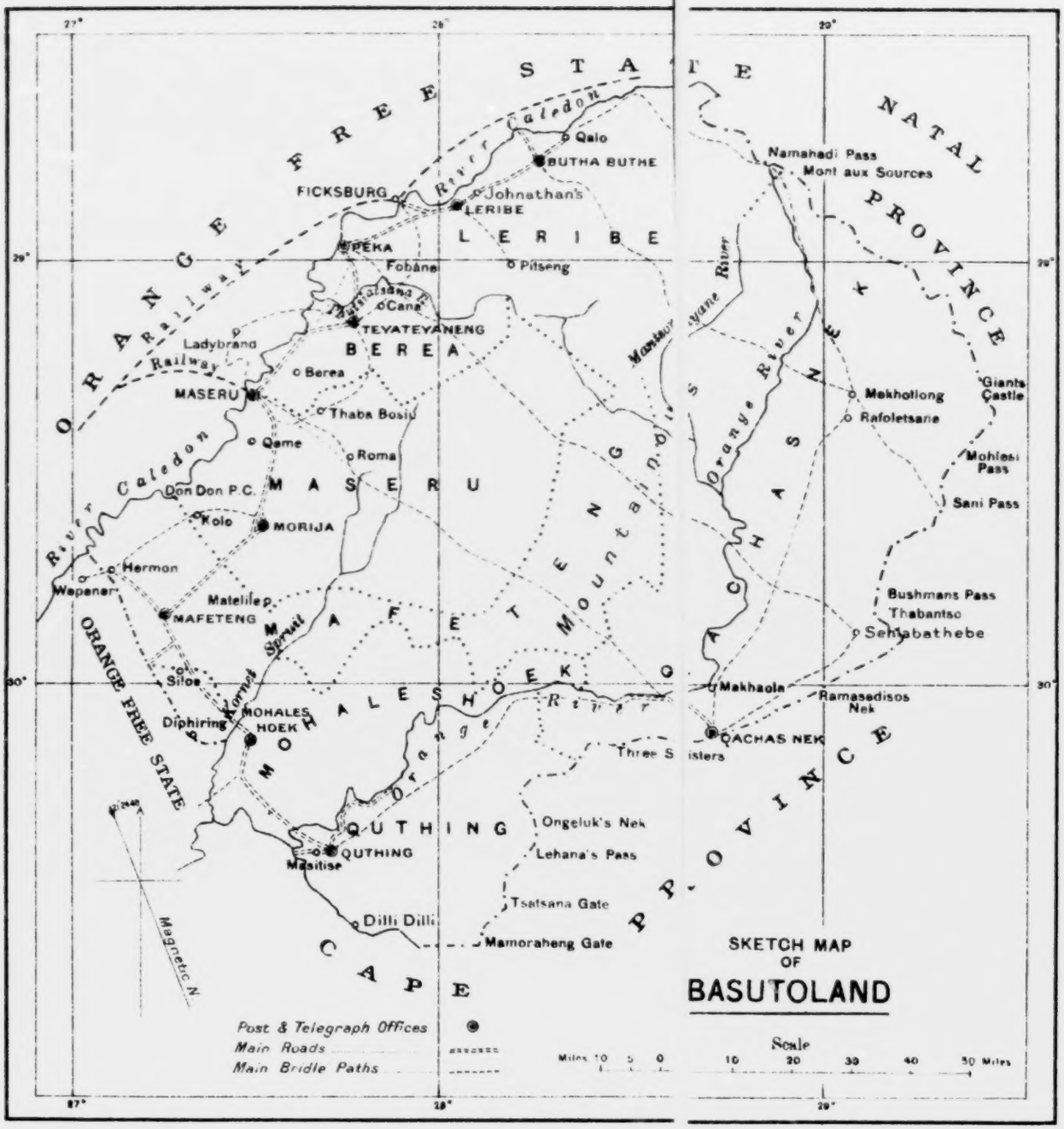
(10) No. 42.—Basutoland Further Appropriation (1928–29) Proclamation, 1929.

(11) No. 43.—Providing for the payment of a pension to Reginald Montague Bosworth Smith.

F. FOORD,
Government Secretary.

BASUTOLAND.

(7789—21) W1. 9771—863 625 9/30 P. St. G. 7.



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War Office, May. 1929

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Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1930. Cmd. 3637. 6*d.* (7*d.*).

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BASUTOLAND

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BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1930.

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PREFATORY NOTE.

History and Geography.

Basutoland, which is a native territory in South Africa, is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, and on the south by the Cape Province. Its area is 11,716 square miles. It lies between 28° 35′ and 30° 40′ South latitude, and between 27° and 29° 30′ East longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 ft. to 11,000 ft. above sea level, and the climate is, on the whole, healthy. The Maluti Mountains, which occupy most of the country to the east, in former years were reserved entirely as cattle and sheep-posts, but owing to the increase

* The financial information given in this Report is for the financial year ended 31st March, 1930.

in population the Basuto have found it necessary to migrate there, build villages, and cultivate the land, so that to-day this more or less inaccessible area is gradually becoming as thickly populated as the low-lying country to the west. The result of this invasion into the mountain area is the disappearance of all big game, such as eland and hartebeest, which used to abound some thirty years ago, and the gradual elimination of the smaller buck and all species of wild fowl.

In favourable seasons the territory produces wheat, maize, and kaffir corn, and to a smaller extent peas, beans, and other vegetables, while horse breeding and the raising of cattle and sheep are profitable undertakings.

In 1818 the first Paramount Chief of Basutoland, Moshesh, gathered the various remnants of tribes which had become scattered about South Africa during the wars waged by Moselekatse, the king of the Matebele, and thus founded what has become the Basuto nation. The estimated native population is 550,000, while the Europeans, as taken in the last census in 1921, numbered 1,600.

In 1852 war broke out between Moshesh and the British Government; the Basuto were defeated by Sir G. Cathcart at the battle of the Berea Mountain, and Moshesh sent in his submission and made peace. A series of wars then took place from 1856 onwards between the Basuto and the inhabitants of the Orange Free State, and it was not until 1868, when he was hard pressed by the Boers, that Moshesh appealed to the British Government for help and the recognition of his people as British subjects. This was carried into effect by a Proclamation dated the 12th March, 1868, and the event is now commemorated by observing this day as a public holiday, known as "Moshoeshoe's Day." In 1871, however, the Territory was annexed to the Cape Colony, and, after various disturbances, the Government of the Cape, in April, 1880, extended the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878 to Basutoland, which included a clause for the general disarmament of the Basuto. The Basuto, however, refused to accept the terms and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at by which the Act was repealed and certain fines inflicted on the tribe.

Although outwardly peace had been restored, there still remained several Chiefs who would in no way accept the terms, and it was eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This was effected by Order in Council of 2nd February 1884 which was proclaimed and brought into force by Proclamation 75A of 18th March, 1884. Since that date the territory has been governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for South Africa.

Languages.

The principal languages are English and Sesuto, although in the southern and south-eastern portions other native languages are largely spoken.

Currency.

The coin in circulation is mainly South African, but late South African Republic coins are occasionally met with. Central Reserve Bank-notes are brought into the Territory, but the local Bank only re-issues the notes of joint stock banks. Gold coin is unlimited but the demand is negligible. During the year the Maseru Branch of the Standard Bank of South Africa exported £20,000 gold, £4,175 silver, and £30 copper. The figures for gold and silver show a substantial increase on those given last year.

It is considered that the amount of notes and coin in circulation will not be maintained as time goes on owing to increased spending by the native inhabitants, and the larger number who have learned to deposit with the Bank ; but the amount of coin in circulation at the end of 1930 was between £40,000 and £50,000, and notes between £100,000 and £125,000.

The Imperial Coinage Act, 1920, is in force in the Territory, re-enacted under High Commissioner's Notice No. 63 of 1920.

Weights and Measures.

The weights and measures in use in Basutoland are the British Imperial, but the Colonial ton of 2,000 lb. is also used.

I.—GENERAL.

The succession to the Leribe Chieftainship, which became vacant on the death of Chief Jonathan in September, 1928, was disputed by the members of the family of the late Chief, and led to a decision in the Court of the Assistant Commissioner, Leribe, which upheld the Paramount Chief's " placing " of Chief Motsoene. An appeal against this judgment was lodged and heard in the Resident Commissioner's Court in December. Judgment has since been delivered upholding the appointment of Chief Motsoene.

There were no faction fights of any serious nature during the year.

Mr. D. M. Greig, Road Inspector (South), died after a long illness at Mohales Hoek in July, 1930.

Mr. H. R. Vimpany, Director of the Lerotholi Technical School, went on three months' leave in November pending retirement.

As a result of the retirement of Mr. R. B. Smith in December, 1929, the following promotions took effect during the year :—

Mr. F. Foord to Government Secretary.
Mr. L. Clementi to Assistant Commissioner.
Mr. R. S. Balfe to Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Butha Buthe.
Sub-Inspectors E. E. Strong and H. A. Smith to Inspectors, Basutoland Mounted Police.
Mr. R. E. K. Murray to Sub-Inspector.

His Excellency the High Commissioner paid two visits to the Territory during the course of the year—the first in June when he opened the new Tsoelike Suspension Bridge in the Qachas Nek district, and the second in September when, accompanied by Her Royal Highness Princess Alice and Lady May Cambridge, His Excellency bade farewell to the residents (European and native) of the Territory.

Conditions prevailing in the Territory during the last year were exceedingly acute. Severe droughts occurred during the critical maize-growing stage, and late frosts just before the crop ripened produced conditions bordering upon distress in several areas.

There were 11 Trade Marks registered during the year.

There was no Conference of Assistant Commissioners during the year.

The Twenty-Fifth Session of the Basutoland Council was held at Maseru from the 25th October to 4th November. The following were the more important questions discussed :—

(1) Ploughing on mountain slopes and overstocking with the consequent denudation of the soil and soil erosion.
(2) Proposed regulations prohibiting the growing of Indian Hemp (Dagga).
(3) Stock Theft—its growth in mountain areas.
(4) Ox-Waggon transport versus motor lorries.
(5) Native Circuit Courts—proposed payment of members of.

II.—FINANCE.

The revenue for the financial year ended 31st March, 1930, amounted to £326,676 4s. 10d. and the expenditure to £333,861 14s. 9d., an excess of expenditure over revenue of £7,185 9s. 11d.

The balance of assets in excess of liabilities at the 31st March, 1930, was £51,789 in addition to which there is a reserved surplus of £70,000 inclusive of the Swaziland loan.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure for the past five financial years :—

Revenue.

Head.	*1925–26*	*1926–27*	*1927–28*	*1928–29*	*1929–30*
	£	£	£	£	£
Native Tax	139,776	132,072	137,744	141,719	136,237
Customs and Excise	84,196	87,352	92,201	96,072	95,564
Posts and Telegraphs	8,428	7,648	8,406	9,181	9,377
Licences	7,766	8,758	8,938	9,206	9,141
Fees of Court or Office	1,084	933	956	1,094	1,083
Judicial Fines	3,022	1,911	2,629	2,515	2,039
Income Tax	13,759	10,784	12,843	16,022	10,732
Fees for Services Rendered	1,386	1,278	1,159	1,296	1,387
Interest	1,819	2,158	2,275	3,670	5,101
Wool Export Duty	15,421	17,141	17,918	33,976	32,187
Miscellaneous	4,915	4,369	7,913	10,038	8,943
Education Levy	—	—	13,357	15,103	14,885
Totals	£281,572	£274,404	£306,399	£339,892	£326,676

Expenditure.

Head.	*1925–26*	*1926–27*	*1927–28*	*1928–29*	*1929–30*
	£	£	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner	13,829	13,811	12,532	13,099	12,724
District Administration	13,091	13,690	13,619	14,118	14,926
Police	37,507	39,164	39,160	38,357	38,678
Administration of Justice	11,659	11,194	12,379	11,764	12,087
Posts and Telegraphs	10,458	11,676	11,118	11,568	13,494
Public Works Department	5,616	5,218	5,147	5,239	5,276
Public Works Extraordinary	8,820	6,872	3,671	2,747	3,597
Public Works Recurrent	23,778	25,669	23,044	29,502	30,521
Medical	21,548	22,617	26,121	25,676	26,832
Education	40,113	41,412	54,871	58,596	57,105
Lerotholi Technical School	2,486	2,508	6,566	6,658	6,674
Agriculture	28,780	27,659	30,874	39,178	37,104 Vet. 5,911 Agric.
Allowances to Chiefs	11,994	11,691	12,002	12,562	14,260
National Council	2,037	1,909	1,641	1,762	1,777
Leper Settlement	19,306	19,401	19,558	19,238	20,077
Pensions	7,599	10,030	11,797	11,828	14,291
Miscellaneous	9,455	6,076	6,970	7,998	8,486
Capital Expenditure	—	2,030	3,804	6,687	10,060
Totals	£268,076	£272,627	£294,874	£316,577	£333,862

Income Tax.

The rates of normal and super tax remained the same as during the preceding financial year ; and were imposed by the Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1925. There were no enactments during the year dealing with Income Tax. The Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation No. 41 of 1929 which promulgated certain amendments to the principal law first took effect during the current year, i.e., for the twelve months ended 30th June, 1930. The principal amendment was that the rebate in respect of children was raised to £75 and the age in respect of which the rebate could be claimed to 21 years of age.

The Income Tax collected for the above period was made up as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Current Normal Tax	8,676	9	7
Arrear Normal Tax	480	2	5
Arrear Super Tax	538	12	11
Current Super Tax	1,036	8	1
	£10,731	13	0

The following table shows the sources from which taxable incomes were derived and the amount of tax paid from each source, and also compares the collections with the previous year :—

Source.	1928–29			1929–30			+ *or* −		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
General Traders	11,853	10	4	7,514	13	9	− 4,338	16	7
Civil Servants	1,176	10	8	1,128	12	10	− 47	17	10
Employed Persons	574	3	9	459	17	8	− 114	6	1
Others	1,246	12	9	835	13	9	− 410	19	0
Non-Residents	1,170	15	2	792	15	0	− 378	0	2
	£16,021	12	8	£10,731	13	0	−£5,289	19	8

The number of incomes assessed for current tax in the various categories were :—

Number.	*Category.*	*Taxable Income.* £
35	£500 and under.	14,085
37	£501 to £750.	23,314
25	£751 to £1,000.	21,496
19	£1001 to £1,500.	21,645
10	£1,501 to £2,000.	17,324
11	£2,001 and over.	64,119
137		£161,983

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

Locust Destruction.—There has been no invasion of Basutoland by flying swarms of locusts since 1923. No reports have been received by the Agricultural Officer of the presence of brown locusts or voetgangers during the year. Reports have, however, been received of the presence of the " Elegant Grasshopper " but it appears that the ravages of this insect are confined to gardens.

Agricultural Shows.—In spite of the serious droughts which prevailed during the year, the exhibits of produce at the various shows held throughout the Territory definitely point to a keener and more lively interest being taken in the quality of their produce by native agriculturists. This improvement is directly attributable to the activities of Agricultural Demonstrators, and to the holding of shows, which engenders the spirit of competition so necessary for improvement.

Donga Prevention.—Besides maintaining existing works, several dongas have been fenced in on the Teyateyaneng Reserve, and different varieties of trees, prickly pear, and aloe plants have been planted along their banks with a view to checking further erosion.

Many thousands of tons of the richest soil of Basutoland are estimated to be washed away yearly by the torrential summer rains, and the steady yearly increase in soil erosion in the flats and mountain areas has caused the department much concern. Every effort is made by demonstrators by way of propaganda to check the increase of this evil, but it is feared that as long as land is held communally, little success will attend their efforts. It is the old case of where it is every one's duty to prevent it, it is no one's duty.

One of the chief factors in the increase of erosion is the steady migration of natives from the flats to the mountain areas and the consequent change in the nature of the hinterland from a purely pastoral to a semi-pastoral, semi-agricultural aspect, necessitating as it does the natives ploughing on the mountain slopes.

Overstocking and the denudation, and in many areas complete extinction of the natural grasses of the country are attendant evils, and until the native mind can grasp that it is not the quantity but the quality that counts in live stock as in everything else, it is feared that little progress can be made in this direction. This love of numbers of cattle rather than quality in them is an inherent characteristic of the Basuto mind, and all who have had close contact with them will realize the difficulty encountered and the patience required to dissuade them from their belief.

Tree Planting.—Young trees propagated in the nurseries situated in each of the Camps are available for distribution free of charge to natives and Europeans throughout Basutoland. Every facility is given to Basuto agriculturists to encourage them to undertake tree planting on a bigger scale, and it is gratifying to observe that the

number of trees issued yearly shows a steady increase. Communal land tenure and the consequent inability of the individual to fence his tree plantation, thus leaving it open to attack by herds of cattle, sheep, and goats, account to a great extent for the apathy displayed by Basuto to this branch of agriculture.

There are very few indigenous varieties of trees in the country, and nothing in the nature of a forest exists, though some of the more sheltered valleys are thickly covered with *cheche* bush and the indigenous wild willow. Poplar groves and willow-lined streams are common in some areas and are closely guarded by the local Chief who derives an income from their sale as roofing beams for huts.

Agricultural Societies.—Every endeavour is still being made to foster and encourage the growth and formation of agricultural societies and associations throughout the Territory, with an appreciable amount of success, as a few fairly strong societies are now in operation in different parts of the Territory.

Agricultural Demonstrators.—Demonstration work was first started in Basutoland in 1924 with four demonstrators, and the number employed has gradually risen to sixteen. They are all young men who have passed the Agricultural Diploma of one or other of the recognized Native Agricultural Schools in the Union of South Africa, and are distributed in each district and sub-district in the Territory. Demonstrators are also stationed at Roma, Morija, and Leloaleng Training Institutions and the Lerotholi Technical School, Maseru, where demonstration lands are worked and where agricultural apprentices are trained and the pupils given a course of agricultural lectures.

The general work of all demonstrators is to give lectures on subjects such as the selection of seed, planting and proper cultivation of the various crops grown throughout their districts shortly before these operations take place. They also undertake the working of various native lands to show a contrast between them and ordinary lands worked by the natives themselves. In a good season a demonstrator works from 25 to 30 lands and obtains an increase of from 50 to 100 per cent.

Experimental work is also being carried out with the use of superphosphate and nitrate of soda. The application of superphosphate has been found most beneficial, a land thus fertilized yielding an increase in the region of 100 per cent. over an unfertilized land which has otherwise been treated in the same way. Nitrate of soda plots have been disappointing. Better results have been obtained on plots thus treated than on unmanured plots, but, on the whole, the experiments have been spoiled during the last two seasons by droughts occurring when the mealies were flowering.

Forestry, Fisheries, and Mining.

There are no natural forests in Basutoland, and no fisheries. No mining operations are carried on.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The following is a return of the imports into and exports from the Territory by general traders during the calendar year 1930, the figures for 1929 being given for the purposes of comparison :—

Imports.

	1929		1930	
	No.	*Value.*	*No.*	*Value.*
		£		£
Merchandise	—	669,008	—	431,534
Livestock:—				
Horses, Mules, etc.	251	501	12	34
Cattle	2,428	6,351	645	1,526
Sheep and Goats	149	207	312	163
Grain:—	*Muids.*		*Muids.*	
Wheat and Wheat Meal... ...	5,415	8,837	5,179	6,760
Maize and Maize Meal	25,049	17,398	61,416	30,318
Kaffir Corn	4,315	3,030	10,828	7,090
Other Produce	—	1,084	—	524
Totals ...	—	£706,416	—	£477,949

Exports.

	1929		1930	
	No.	*Value.*	*No.*	*Value.*
		£		£
Livestock:—				
Horses, Mules, etc.	104	534	58	330
Cattle	1,496	6,678	3,617	14,121
Sheep and Goats	26	25	1,103	552
Grain:—	*Muids.*		*Muids.*	
Wheat and Wheat Meal... ...	72,103	64,408	131,308	105,330
Maize and Maize Meal	87,404	42,144	6,061	2,169
Kaffir Corn	37,056	21,334	4,032	2,374
Barley	90	50	224	63
Beans and Peas	4,312	5,461	5,873	4,233
Wool and Mohair:—	*Lb.*		*Lb.*	
Wool	12,937,198	436,083	9,729,169	156,601
Mohair	1,961,746	94,352	942,725	21,837
Hides and Skins:—				
Hides	445,286	15,126	371,620	6,044
Skins	365,039	8,327	359,767	3,747
Miscellaneous	—	272	—	225
Totals	—	£694,794	—	£317,626

Other Statistics.

Government imports during the year amounted to £55,130 as compared with £54,686 in 1929.

General.

All imports by traders are made through wholesale firms in the Union of South Africa or by direct indent with wholesale houses overseas, and all exports are to the Union of South Africa. It is, therefore, impossible to give the origin of goods imported or the ultimate destination of goods expor d.

With the exception of fuel, soap, motor oil, and petrol, which are purchased in the Union, all Government imports are made through the Crown Agents for the Colonies in London.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Railways.

There is only a small branch line on the Bloemfontein—Natal main line, from Marseilles to Maseru, one mile of which is in Basutoland.

Roads and Bridges.

During the year re-gravelling and re-shaping work has been carried on almost continuously on the main or "A" roads. In many sections, low-lying portions have been raised and considerable improvement to the alignment of the road has been effected. Attention has also been directed to a greater extent than in previous years to improving the drainage of the roads and a number of concrete pipe drains have been built under the roads. Improvements in the side drainage have also been carried out. It will not be possible to complete the drainage of the roads satisfactorily for a number of years, but the progress made so far will be maintained and, it is hoped, accelerated in the future.

While it may be said that the roads of the north have improved generally during the year, the difficulty of obtaining road gravel within reasonable distance makes maintenance and constructional work slow and expensive. The roads in the south are more fortunate in this respect; yet there, too, the long leads and slow oxen transport delay constructional work to a serious extent.

The "B" or "feeder" roads are in a bad state of repair, but an endeavour is now being made to give them more constant attention.

Some damage was done to the roads and causeways by heavy rains during the summer months. It is hoped in the coming year to replace some of the older and more obsolete causeways and culverts by new and more adequate works.

The bridges in the Territory have been maintained satisfactorily. The drift at Caledon's Poort has again been rendered impassable for long periods, but the construction of a bridge over the Caledon river at this site is under consideration.

The Tsoelike Suspension Bridge (210 feet span) was completed during the year and was opened for traffic by His Excellency the High Commissioner on the 16th June, 1930.

Postal.

All districts in Basutoland are linked up with Maseru by telegraph and telephone lines, with the exception of Qachas Nek which is connected by telegraph and telephone to Matatiele in East Griqualand. The systems are owned by the Basutoland Government. Both telephones and telegraph are used by the general public, and public telephone call offices are attached to each post office.

There are ten telegraph offices in the Territory, and 154¾ miles of telegraph wire. During 1930, telegraph messages numbering 52,935 were dealt with as follows :—foreign 221 ; government 3,822 ; ordinary 18,427 ; transmitted 11,718 ; received 18,747.

There are ten central telephone offices with telephones in service. The length of local exchange wire is 88 miles and long distance wire is 573½ miles.

The following table shows the number of deposits in, and withdrawals from, the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years :—

	Deposits.	*Withdrawals.*
1928–29 ...	2,218 value £9,874	956 value £8,130
1929–30 ...	1,935 value £8,642	3,037 value £14,846.

The following table shows the number and value of money and postal orders issued and paid during the past two years :—

	Issued.	*Paid.*
1928–29 ...	33,231 value £29,369	41,950 value £48,232
1929–30 ...	3,458 value £13,921	52,152 value £55,960.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Administration of Justice.

During the year 1930, 4,481 crimes were reported or known to the Police, as compared with 2,771 in 1929. This increase is largely due to prosecutions under the Scab Law and under the Native Tax Law. The number of persons proceeded against was 3,127 as compared with 2,252 in 1929. Convictions in magisterial courts numbered 2,511, and in the Resident Commissioner's Court 124, compared with 1,804 and 94 respectively in 1929.

The following table shows the number of convictions for various crimes and offences during the last five years :—

In Magisterial Courts.	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*
Offences against the person ...	97	287	438	213	219
Offences against property ...	244	272	253	221	282
Offences against liquor laws ...	52	37	42	57	47
Other crimes	1,409	1,484	1,429	1,313	1,968

In the Resident Commissioner's Court.	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*
Murder	6	1	1	6	10
Culpable homicide	38	24	20	30	23
Attempted murder	—	1	4	5	—
Rape	2	—	2	5	2
Unnatural crime	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the person	11	4	2	1	6
Offences against property with violence to the person.	298	48	4	33	52
Other offences against property...	41	15	3	14	31
Other crimes	1	—	—	—	—

Police.

Constitution and Command.—The Basutoland Mounted Police is maintained under the Basutoland Proclamation No. 12 of 1921. The Force is under the control of the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland who is also the Commandant, with a Staff Officer who is resident at Maseru.

There is a training depot for all recruits at Maseru under the supervision of the Staff Officer, with a Warrant Officer as Drill Instructor, a native Sergeant-Major, and a Non-Commissioned Officer.

Finger-print work is also carried out at Maseru and is under the charge of a Warrant Officer qualified in this work.

Distribution and Duties.—Mounted detachments of the Force are stationed in Maseru and in the various districts of the Territory under the command of the European officers of the establishment who are responsible for the general police routine being carried out within their districts and for the efficiency of their respective detachments.

Establishment.—The establishment of the Force is as follows :—

Europeans :—

Inspectors	6	(one of whom is Staff Officer).
Sub-Inspectors ...	6	
Warrant Officers ...	2	(1 Chief Constable, 1 Vacancy).
	14	

Native Police :—

Sergeant-Major ...	1
Sergeants	14
Corporals	15
Privates	308
	338
Total all Ranks ...	352

Depot.—As there is no surplus strength kept at the depot, recruits are only sent there for training after vacancies have been filled. Refresher courses are undertaken from drafts from the districts sent in from time to time. During 1930, 32 recruits were passed through, and 50 men reported for refresher courses.

Finger-Print Work.—This branch continues to perform valuable assistance by supplying the Courts with previous criminal history of accused persons whose finger-prints are sent in for identification. During the year over 800 finger impressions were received for search. In addition to ordinary criminal work, search was made on behalf of other departments to ensure that persons desirous of entering these departments had no serious criminal convictions registered against them.

Health of Police.—During the year the health of the Police has been good on the whole. It is regretted that two deaths occurred among the native staff; one being that of the Sergeant-Major, a Non-Commissioned Officer of considerable ability, whose loss to the force will be greatly felt.

Conduct of Police.—As strict discipline has to be, and is, maintained, native members of the Force who are guilty of repeated misconduct are generally dismissed. Eight discharges are recorded during the year for unsatisfactory conduct; otherwise the conduct of the Police has been good.

Condition of Troop Horses.—Considering the extensive patrol work performed by the native members of the Force and the droughty conditions which prevailed in many of the districts, the horses have maintained their condition remarkably well. Sixteen deaths were reported during the year, and compensation was paid to the owners, it being the practice that horses are privately owned but fed at Government expense, each man's horse being registered for insurance purposes.

Work performed by Police.—The following summary is some of the routine work carried out during the year:—

Crimes reported to the Police	4,481
Cases brought before the Courts	2,783
Persons proceeded against	3,127
Persons convicted	2,531
Miscellaneous inquiries, etc.	1,698

Apart from the ordinary Police routine, the Police were called upon to perform extraneous duties in assisting in collection of hut tax, wool tax, providing prison guards, clerical assistance in various district offices, and services in the Medical and Veterinary Departments.

Crime.—From the figures submitted, there has been an increase in crime generally, as compared with the previous year.

(1) The crimes of murder and manslaughter in most instances are committed either at beer drinks or else by persons who are

under the influence of liquor. The curtailment of these feasts might be beneficial, but can only be undertaken by action of the Chiefs themselves and not by the Police.

(2) The increase of convictions under the Liquor Law is not attributed to the increased activities of the liquor runners, but to the exceptional effort made in all districts to stamp out this evil, and to the excellent co-operation between the Basutoland and Union Police on the border.

(3) Stock theft, unfortunately, is still a great menace to the stock owners. The increase in the detection of this crime during the past year may be due to the better co-operation on the part of the Chiefs with the Police.

(4) A summary of criminal statistics for the year is shown under the heading " Justice."

Prisons.

There are ten gaols and one lock-up in the Territory, and 3,480 prisoners passed through them during the year, as compared with 2,643 in 1929.

It has been the practice for several years to transfer all juvenile prisoners of from 15 to 20 years of age, whose sentences are over three months, to serve their sentences at the Peka Gaol in order to prevent contact as far as possible with adult offenders. At Peka these juveniles are under the close supervision of the Officer-in-Charge, and they are taught stone-cutting, masonry work, road-making, repairs to buildings, and gardening. The gaol is visited weekly by the Medical Officer, Teyateyaneng. Parents of these youths are allowed to visit them on Sundays, and religious services are held fortnightly by a native minister.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Extensive repairs to Government buildings have been undertaken during the year at Qachas Nek and Quthing, and additional buildings have been erected at the Leper Settlement, while numerous smaller repairs and works including Border Police huts and stables have been undertaken in different parts of the Territory.

Electric light plants have been installed for the hospitals at Mafeteng and Mohales Hoek.

Water Works.

During the year, 7 additional boreholes yielding satisfactory supplies were put down at Maseru, Mafeteng, and Mohales Hoek; making a total of 12 satisfactory boreholes put down in the last two

years at various Camps in the country. It is intended to utilize the water and to instal pumping plants at some of these boreholes during next year.

The Maseru river water pumping plant was repaired during the year. The average daily supply of water gravitated to the Maseru reservoirs was 30,000 gallons.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

During the year 1930, 2,584 patients were treated in the various hospitals, showing an increase of 105 over the year 1929. Deaths amounted to 157 which, by a strange coincidence, is the same number as the previous year. The number of operations performed was 1,252, the majority of which were under general anaesthesia. The number of out-patients who attended the various dispensaries was 61,936, as against 59,565 for the year 1929, showing an increase of 2,371.

Vaccinations against smallpox only amounted to 650. This, no doubt, was due to only one case of this disease occurring during the year in the Territory. Over 300 inoculations against typhoid fever were given.

The revenue collected in hospital and dispensary fees amounted to £2,254 16s. 0d. The following table gives details for each district :—

District.	*In-Patients.*	*Out-Patients.*	*Subsequent Returns.*	*Vaccinations.*	*Revenue.* £ s. d.
Maseru	925	8,644	5,902	—	580 18 3
Leribe	431	7,561	2,511	—	407 1 6
Mafeteng	368	8,291	4,372	—	498 11 6
Mohales Hoek	290	4,212	1,434	—	193 16 9
Quthing	235	5,088	2,090	600	241 18 9
Qachas Nek	250	3,308	1,382	—	149 2 6
Teyateyaneng	85	5,200	1,941	50	183 6 9
Totals	2,584	42,304	19,632	650	£2,254 16 0

It will be noticed that although there is an increase in the number of out-patients, there has been a considerable decrease in revenue. This is probably due to the increased number of free attendances, including those who receive anti-syphilitic treatment.

The general health of the Territory, on the whole, has been good. There was an outbreak of chicken-pox in the Maseru Reserve, which necessitated the native schools being closed for a period. Cases of enteric fever again showed a marked decrease compared with those reported in previous years ; whereas, on the other hand, cases of typhus were nearly double those of 1929. There was a marked increase of influenza which, however, with a few exceptions, was of a mild form.

The figures for epidemic, endemic, and infectious diseases for the year 1930 are as follows :—

Typhoid	189	Mumps	35
Typhus	75	Epidemic Diarrhoea ...	100
Smallpox	1	Malaria (Imported from Bechuanaland) ...	1
Measles	78	Dysentery	111
Scarlet Fever ...	2	Erysipelas	8
Whooping Cough ...	147	Other Epidemic Diseases	179
Diphtheria	5	Anthrax	14
Influenza	938	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	295

It will be seen from the above table that there were 5 cases of Diphtheria during the year, but no deaths were reported. Anthrax would appear to be on the decrease as 50 per cent. less cases came under observation. This decrease is probably due to the prompt action taken by the Veterinary Department when outbreaks are reported.

The treatment of syphilis by injection of sulpharsenol was commenced towards the end of the year, but it is too early yet to form an opinion as to the effect it will have in assisting to control the spread of this disease.

The campaign for the destruction of rodents was continued as in previous years.

The gaols throughout the Territory when inspected were clean, and there was no outbreak of any serious disease among the inmates.

The sanitation of the Territory was satisfactory. Additional conveniences are being erected in several Camps.

Leper Settlement.

On the 31st December, 1929, the population of the Settlement was 629, composed of 291 males and 338 females. On the 31st December, 1930, the population was 665, of which 292 were males and 373 females, showing an increase of 36 in all, consisting of 1 male and 35 females. It will be observed that whilst the population at the end of 1929 exceeded that of 1928 by 103, this year the increase is only 37 over that of 1929.

The following table represents the number of admissions, etc. :—

	Admitted.	*Re-admitted.*	*Died.*	*Discharged.*	*Deserted.*
Males	67	9	40	23	18
Females	80	4	29	28	
Totals	147	13	69	51	

The following is the corresponding table for 1929 :—

	Admitted.	*Re-admitted.*	*Died.*	*Discharged.*	*Deserted.*
Males	93	6	30	16	} 10
Females	91	8	19	20	
Totals	184	14	49	36	

The decrease in the numbers admitted was 37, that of the re-admitted 1. There was an increase in the number of deaths of 20 and of the desertions 8, and the discharged 15 (14 of which had not left the Settlement on 31st December, 1930).

It is encouraging to note the increase in the number of arrested cases ; and one hopes that the decrease in the number of admissions during the year is a sign that the cases at large are becoming much less owing to the vigilance of the Health and Welfare Inspectors and also of the Leprosy Inspectors.

There was a slight upheaval at the Settlement when the lepers were informed that they were not to provide food for or eat with their visitors, but owing to the diplomatic manner in which the matter was handled by the Superintendent the usual peaceful condition of the Settlement was soon restored.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Education in Basutoland is under the supervision of a Director of Education, a Senior Inspector of Schools, three European Inspectors, and four Native Supervisors.

The majority of schools are Government-aided schools under missionary control. Two Government schools, one at Maseru and one at Mafeteng, provide for scholars in Standards IV, V, and VI, and another school of the same class is in course of construction at Matsieng. The only other school under Government management is the Lerotholi Technical School at Maseru.

The total number of Government and Government-aided schools is 597, of which 9 are Institutions (Normal, Industrial, and Agricultural), 28 Intermediate Schools, and 560 Elementary Vernacular Schools. The number of pupils on the roll for 1930 was 50,443, and the average attendance was 37,150. The Education Vote for year ending 31st March, 1931, was £55,405.

European Education.

There are 9 small primary schools in the Territory, with a total attendance of a little over 100 pupils, to provide for the elementary education of the children in the various Camps. These schools are managed by Local Committees and are supported by the Government.

A detailed report on education is published annually separately.

X.—LABOUR.

The following figures give the number of passes issued to natives to leave the Territory for labour purposes during the last three years :

Year.	*Mines.*	*Railway Construction.*	*Agriculture.*	*Miscellaneous Labour.*	*Total.*
1928	25,523	284	7,353	20,718	53,878
1929	28,705	449	13,483	32,125	74,762
1930	28,526	185	12,778	23,298	64,787

Basuto enlisting themselves as labourers on the gold and diamond mines are slow to avail themselves of the benefits of the deferred pay system, and the percentage for 1930 shows a slight decline.

A campaign is being launched to bring home to labourers the advantages of deferring their pay, not only to themselves and families but to the country as a whole, and it is hoped that 1931 will show a substantial increase.

The average percentage for 1930 was 41·5 per cent as compared with 43·5 per cent in 1929.

XI.—VETERINARY.

Anthrax.

During the year there have been 33 outbreaks of anthrax and 52,126 animals have been inoculated. In no outbreak has there been any serious mortality, and this is probably largely explained by prompt inoculation methods. There is every evidence in support of the reliability of the anthrax vaccine supplied by the Union Veterinary Department. All field inoculations have been done by the Police department.

Equine Mange.

The equine mange position is fairly satisfactory, though well-defined cases were seen in the mountain areas. In some places considerable difficulty was experienced in rounding up unowned infected horses. With the completion of dipping tanks, it is hoped to look forward confidently to equine mange eradication. The spring this year was particularly favourable to the spread of this disease, as owing to severe drought the horses were particularly poverty-stricken.

All dipping supervisors are now instructed to inspect the horses in their areas when field-inspecting sheep, and to treat any animal showing any evidence of skin trouble.

Altogether 3,614 animals were treated in this way, but there is every reason to believe that a large percentage of these were not actually infected with the acarus of equine mange.

Sheep Scab.

The spring was very bad and conducive to the spread of sheep scab. Rain records show that the drought of 1930 is one of the worst the Territory has experienced. Unfortunately these adverse

conditions persisted up to the end of December. There has been in consequence a heavy mortality in sheep and goats, and the only thing that saved the sheep-owners from disastrous losses was that their flocks were clean. In those parts of the mountain areas where no dipping had taken place, severe mortalities occurred.

The prolonged drought seriously interfered with the Veterinary Department in commencing its early summer field operations and in most districts these had to be delayed until a month later than usual. These conditions also added to transport troubles in the mountains.

As anticipated, a considerable number of set-backs were encountered, chiefly in the Mafeteng and Maseru districts. Re-infections of protected areas have cropped up in the winter and spring, most of them being traceable to the movement of infected sheep from those mountain infected areas where no tanks existed. Experience has proved that it cannot be hoped finally to eradicate scab as long as infected sheep are moved about, even when these sheep are treated en route.

These re-infections have been very troublesome and costly, and occurred at the worst moment, when the sheep were often not strong emough to stand dipping. Several outbreaks had to be treated by hand-dressing only and dipping deferred until the sheep were strong enough to stand the immersion, and this is never satisfactory.

With the completion of the final 17 tanks the movement of scabby sheep should automatically cease, and it is confidently hoped that the gradual decrease of these unfortunate recrudescences of scab in clean areas will occur.

The policy of subjecting all supposed clean areas to a table inspection and putting all known infected areas through a simultaneous dipping as soon as the lambing, shearing, and climatic conditions permitted, has been continued.

During the year 2,514,717 sheep and goats were dipped, this being 471,384 less than last year. During November and December, all protected areas were subjected to a table inspection ; 1,215,611 sheep and 470,350 goats were examined, and no scab was found. This desirable state of affairs does not mean that no scab had existed in these areas, but that where scab had been re-introduced it had been successfully dealt with.

Quthing district has been of special interest this year. It has now had its complement of dipping tanks since the autumn of 1928, and is geographically well protected from its neighbours. The Principal Veterinary Officer was of the opinion that if his Department's work and methods were sound little or no scab should be found, and that this district should on examination this year be a test case as to whether he was correct in assuming that scab could be finally eradicated from Basutoland. Every sheep and goat was put on the

table and thoroughly examined, and altogether 440,000 animals were handled, with the result that one animal was found to be scab-infected. This was highly satisfactory and gives every reason to hope that the goal of a scab-free Territory may be confidently looked forward to if the Department's activities are not restricted.

Records show that when the scab campaign was commenced in 1923 approximately 50 per cent. of the flocks were scab-infected in the Quthing district. Experience demonstrates that it takes at least two simultaneous dippings, intermixed with the dippings of sporadic outbreaks, to clean up an area, and if this is to be kept clean then no scab-infected flocks must be brought into it. This is the second year that these conditions have existed in the Quthing district.

There is every evidence to show that the same gratifying decrease of scab is taking place in other districts.

With the completion of the 17 tanks now building, 201 tanks in the Territory will be in operation. As these represent the total number required, this aspect of the scab campaign has terminated. The picking of sites and organizing all the transport, representing thousands of pack animals, has caused much labour and worry for the Veterinary staff, and they are to be complimented on the splendid way they have overcome these difficulties.

Owing to the falling revenue, every effort to practise economies has been made, and one of the most fruitful savings effected is the cessation of the dipping of goats. Hitherto, in carrying out simultaneous dipping, all sheep and goats have been dipped, it being argued that, although the sheep acarus does not live on a goat, it might possibly be a carrier when running with infected sheep. The Principal Veterinary Officer thinks this is highly improbable, and in searching for real economies he decided that he was justified in taking this small risk, and to-day in this Territory no goats are dipped unless they are scab-infected. The goats represent about 30 per cent. to 35 per cent. of the small stock; so in dealing in millions it can readily be seen what a big saving this policy will be.

Considerable economy has been effected in the use of tattoo oil by using a dot on the forehead for first dipping, and branding only for the second dipping.

Dipping mortalities have been heavier this year. The Government has paid compensation for 635 sheep and lambs, and although this is really a very small percentage out of 2,500,000 sheep dipped, it is really undesirable. These heavier mortalities are explained by the extreme drought conditions, causing debility in the animals, and in some cases to the carelessness of the native dip supervisor in not stirring the tank correctly prior to the immersion of the animals.

The native staff does not improve and undoubtedly this is the weak spot in the scab campaign. Constant supervision is required and the men with long service often prove the most unreliable. One native sheep inspector was discharged, but the remaining six have done some valuable work and have justified our confidence in their appointment.

Wool and Mohair.

The market for these commodities has undergone a serious change which has reflected most adversely on the prosperity of the Basuto and everyone concerned. Basuto wool has dropped down to as low as 1d. per lb., causing great consternation amongst sheep owners. At present Basuto wool is purchased on the basis of mixed wool—good, bad, and indifferent—and the price paid to-day is based on the class "bad." Obviously, if the country is to prosper this will have to be altered. This can be done in several ways :—

(*a*) Differentiation on the part of the trader in purchase, paying different prices for the good and bad and educating the grower to the market requirements.

(*b*) Improving the sheep by introducing proper merino rams. This matter has been under discussion and the Principal Veterinary Officer has formulated a scheme which it is proposed to put into execution next spring. The important factor in making this effort a success is the Basuto sheep-owner, and it will be interesting to see if he is capable of loyally supporting the Government in their attempts to assist him. This scheme has the unanimous support of the Chamber of Commerce.

Stud.

Despite the drought and the corresponding low conditions of the mares, the natives showed a keen interest in the stud work, and 135 mares were covered. Of the 124 mares covered last year, 59 proved in foal, but owners to date have failed to report the result of 38 of these mares. The thoroughbred horse "Landing" was purchased this year. This horse is an ideal pony sire.

General.

During the year 2,012 professional visits and attendances were made. The usual maladies, strangles, gallsickness, biliary fever (equine and canine), distemper, etc., have been treated by the Principal Veterinary Officer.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The following Proclamations were promulgated during the year :—

(1) No. 6.—Amending Further Basutoland Proclamation No. 16 of 1907—Stamp Duties.

(2) No. 9.—Amending Further Basutoland Motor Vehicle Proclamation No. 7 of 1926.

(3) No. 15.—Amending Further Customs Tariff and Excise Duties (Amendment) Proclamation, 1925.

(4) No. 19.—Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1930.

(5) No. 20.—Providing for better Administration of Justice in cases between or concerning Natives in Basutoland.

(6) No. 25.—Amending Proclamation No. 20 of 1930, providing for the better administration of justice in cases between or concerning Natives in Basutoland.

(7) No. 32.—Basutoland Appropriation (1930–31) Proclamation, 1930.

F. FOORD,

Government Secretary.

1st April, 1931.

BASUTOLAND.

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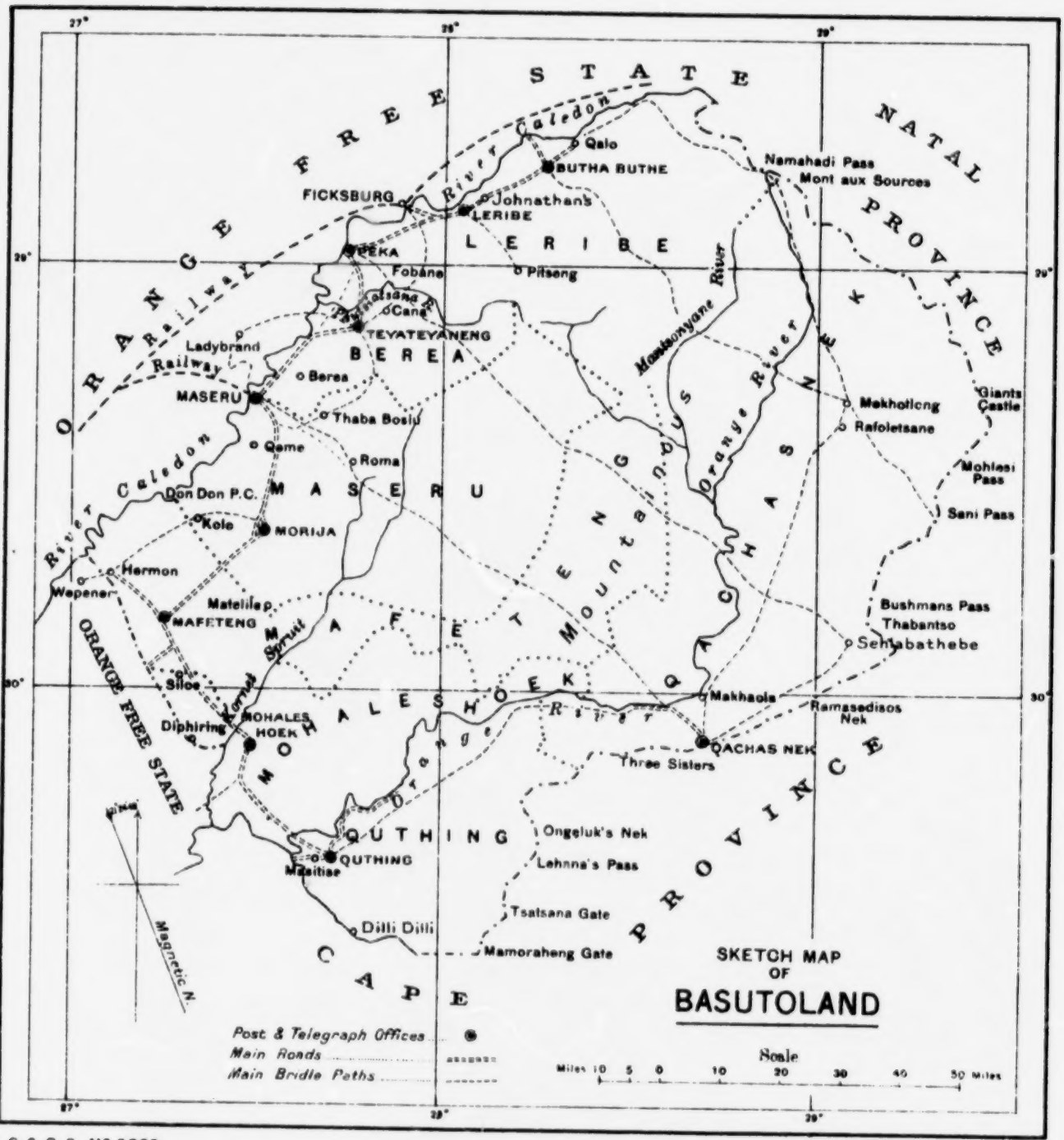

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War Office, May. 1929

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1930. Cmd. 3637. 6d. (7d.).

Agricultural Economics in the Empire. (E.M.B. 1.) 6d. (7d.).

Tropical Agricultural Research in the Empire, with special reference to Cacao, Sugar Cane, Cotton and Palms. (E.M.B. 2.) 1s. 6d. (1s. 9d.).

Geophysical Surveying. Report of a Sub-Committee of the Committee of Civil Research. November 1927. (E.M.B. 6.) 6d. (7d.).

The Chemistry of Wine-Making. A Report on Oenological Research. (E.M.B. 7.) 1s. 0d. (1s. 2d.).

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Oranges. World Production and Trade, Memorandum prepared in the Statistics and Intelligence Branch. April, 1929. (E.M.B. 15.) 1s. 0d. (1s. 3d.).

Schistosomiasis and Malaria in Relation to Irrigation. May, 1929. (E.M.B. 17.) 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.).

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Panama Disease of Bananas. Reports on scientific visits to the Banana growing countries of the West Indies, Central and South America. July, 1929. (E.M.B. 20.) 1s. 6d. (1s. 10d.).

Wool, a study of the fibre. September, 1929. (E.M.B. 21.) 1s. 6d. (1s. 11d.).

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The Biological Control of Insect and Plant Pests. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 29.) 1s. 0d. (1s. 4d.).

Canadian Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the Deterioration in Transit of Imported Canadian Fruit, 1927–29. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 30.) 1s. 0d. (1s. 2d.).

The Production of Tung Oil in the Empire. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 31.) 1s. 0d. (1s. 1d.)

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF

BASUTOLAND, 1931

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CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY INCLUDING CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

Basutoland, which is a native territory in South Africa, is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, and on the south by the Cape Province. Its area is 11,716 square miles. It lies between 28° 35′ and 30° 40′ South latitude, and between 27° and 29° 30′ East longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 ft. to 11,000 ft. above sea-level, and the climate is, on the whole, healthy. The Maluti Mountains, which occupy most of the country to the east, were in former years reserved entirely as cattle posts, but owing to the increase in population the Basuto have found it necessary to migrate there, build villages, and cultivate the land, so that to-day this more or less inaccessible area is gradually becoming as thickly populated as

* The financial information given in this Report is for the financial year ended 31st March, 1931.

the low-lying country to the west. The result of this invasion into the mountain area is the disappearance of all big game, such as eland and hartebeest, which used to abound some thirty years ago, and the gradual elimination of the smaller buck and all species of wild fowl.

The climate is good for Europeans and natives alike. The high altitude and pure atmosphere prove most invigorating. *Phthisis pulmonalis* is little known except among Europeans who have come to the country on account of this disease, and if they come in the early stages of the disease they improve at once. Persons suffering from malarial fever or its results are benefited greatly by a short residence in Basutoland.

The range of temperature is approximately from a maximum of 93° F. to a minimum of 11° F. The average annual rainfall is 30 inches, the total recorded during 1931 at the Mafeteng Inland Barometric Station, being 29·74 inches.

In 1818 the first Paramount Chief of Basutoland, Moshesh, gathered the various remnants of tribes which had become scattered about South Africa during the wars waged by Moselekatse, the king of the Matabele, and thus founded what has become the Basuto nation. The estimated native population is 570,000, while the Europeans, as taken in the last census in 1921, numbered 1,600.

In 1852 war broke out between Moshesh and the British Government; the Basuto were defeated by Sir G. Cathcart at the battle of the Berea Mountain, and Moshesh sent in his submission and made peace. A series of wars then took place from 1856 onwards between the Basuto and the inhabitants of the Orange Free State, and it was not until 1868, when he was hard pressed by the Boers, that Moshesh appealed to the British Government for help and the recognition of his people as British subjects. This was carried into effect by a Proclamation dated the 12th March, 1868, and the event is now commemorated by observing this day as a public holiday, known as "Moshoeshoe's Day." In 1871, the Territory was annexed to the Cape Colony, and, after various disturbances, the Government of the Cape, in April, 1880, extended the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878 to Basutoland, which included a clause for the general disarmament of the Basuto. The Basuto, however, refused to accept the terms and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at by which the Act was repealed and certain fines inflicted on the tribe.

Although outwardly peace had been restored, there still remained several Chiefs who would in no way accept the terms, and it was eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This was effected by Order in Council of 2nd February, 1884, which was proclaimed and brought into force by Proclamation 75A of 18th March, 1884.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

The Territory is now governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for South Africa, the latter possessing the legislative authority, which is exercised by proclamation promulgated in the *Official Gazette*.

For fiscal and other purposes the country is divided into seven districts, each of which is under an Assistant Commissioner, namely Maseru, Leribe, Berea, Mohales Hoek, Mafeteng, Quthing, and Qacha's Nek. These districts are sub-divided into wards presided over by hereditary chiefs and those allied to the Moshesh family, who are responsible to the Paramount Chief in all matters relating to native law and custom.

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

No census has been taken since 1921. The following figures indicate the racial distribution of the population at the last census:—

District.	*Europeans.*	*Bantu.*	*Coloured other than Bantu.*
Leribe	260	107,794	211
Berea	132	56,674	136
Maseru	612	99,378	266
Mafeteng	262	67,279	221
Mohales Hoek ...	159	60,568	281
Quthing	115	58,051	96
Qacha's Nek	63	66,193	30
Totals	1,603	495,937	1,241

Besides the population as enumerated above, 47,141 Bantu were stated to be absent at various labour centres outside the Territory when the census was taken.

The following is a comparative statement of the density of the population (other than European), at the censuses of 1904, 1911, and 1921 :—

	1904.	*1911.*	*1921.*
No. of persons per square mile ...	33·78	38·97	48·30
No. of acres per head of population ...	18·94	16·42	13·25
No. of occupied huts per square mile...	8·42	10·86	16·99
No. of persons to each occupied hut ...	4·01	3·61	2·84

There is no compulsory registration of births, deaths, or marriages according to native custom. Marriages according to Christian rites numbered 643 during the year under review, as compared with 740 during 1930, and 819 during 1929.

Every native entering or leaving the Territory must be in possession of an official pass.

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

During the year 1931, 2,664 patients were treated in the various hospitals, showing an increase of 80 over the number treated in 1930. Deaths amounted to 179 which is 22 more than in the previous year. The number of operations performed was 1,231, the majority of which were under general anaesthesia. The number of out-patients who attended the various hospitals showed a decrease of 6,160. The following table gives details of each district :—

District.	*In-Patients.*	*Out-Patients.*	*Subsequent Returns.*	*Vaccinations.*	*Revenue.* £	*s.*	*d.*
Maseru	852	8,587	5,252	—	618	3	6
Leribe	539	6,528	2,940	—	345	6	0
Mafeteng ...	393	7,192	3,586	—	377	19	3
Mohales Hoek ...	345	4,116	1,504	—	172	4	6
Quthing ...	242	4,271	1,036	100	174	0	9
Qacha's Nek ...	231	3,567	1,307	—	117	11	3
Teyateyaneng ...	62	4,476	1,414	—	139	5	9
Totals ...	2,664	38,737	17,039	100	£1,944	11	0

As regards the general health of the Territory during the year under review there is nothing of note to comment upon. Typhoid fever has been more prevalent in the north than in previous years, and the number of deaths recorded from this disease was 18 as compared with 9 in 1930. Cases of typhus have increased but, of those admitted into hospital, the mortality rate was not as high as last year, viz., 5 deaths in 21 cases as compared with 10 deaths in 28. The position in regard to syphilis is not satisfactory; for although there are many less reported cases in the first and third stages, there is an increase of 112 in the secondary stage, in which it was hoped that there would be a decrease in numbers. It appears from the Medical Officers' reports on their experience with sulpharsenol injection treatment that the benefits anticipated exceeded those realized, a result which is disappointing.

The following is a comparative table of communicable diseases admitted to hospitals in the territory during the years 1930 and 1931 :—

Description.	1930.	1931.
Influenza	938	550
Typhoid	189	247
Dysentery	111	161
Typhus	75	118
Whooping Cough	147	337
Measles	78	119
Smallpox	1	1
Scarlet Fever...	2	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	295	261
Anthrax	14	1
Total	1,850	1,797

The sanitary arrangements in the various Camps have been well maintained, and there have been no outbreaks of disease which could in any way be attributed to an inefficient service. An abattoir has recently been opened in Maseru where the slaughter of all stock for European consumption is carried out under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. Flies have not been such a nuisance as in previous years: and the measures adopted for the destruction of rodents would appear to have been satisfactory, as no reports have been received in regard to any noticeable increase in their numbers.

The gaols throughout the Territory, when inspected, were clean, and there has been no outbreak of any serious disease among the inmates.

Leper Settlement.

On 31st December, 1930, the population of the Settlement was 665, composed of 292 males and 373 females. On 31st December, 1931, the population was 699, of which 325 were males and 374 females, showing an increase during the period under review of 33 males and 1 female. This is interesting inasmuch as in the past the increase in females has invariably predominated over that of the males, and is doubtless due to the active vigilance of the Leprosy Health Inspectors.

The following represents the numbers of admissions, etc. :—

1931.	*Admitted.*	*Re-admitted.*	*Died.*	*Discharged.*	*Deserted.*
Males	99	11	42	21	14
Females	71	11	47	28	6
Totals	170	22	89	49	20
1930.					
Males	67	9	40	23	18
Females	80	4	29	28	
Totals	147	13	69	51	18

The diminution in the admission rate which was to be hoped for after the Inspectors had once traversed the whole Territory has not yet taken place, although it is estimated that by September, 1931, the whole Territory had been explored once. This is to be explained in large part by the fact that after the Inspectors have reported suspected cases of leprosy in the less accessible parts of the Territory, a considerable time elapses before the patients are sent to the Asylum.

A detailed Annual Report on Health is published separately.

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

Basutoland is a purely native Territory. There are no factory or industrial undertakings and the problem of the proper accommodation of workers has not therefore arisen.

The natives live in villages under tribal authority and their huts are, on the whole, healthy if primitive. These huts are invariably built of sods or stone, with a mud floor and a thatched roof: and from the figures taken at the 1921 census, the average number of persons to each occupied hut was 2·84.

The small European population, consisting of Civil Servants, Missionaries, and Traders, is, as a rule, well housed in buildings of cut stone or brick.

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

There are no fisheries; and no mining operations are carried out in Basutoland.

Production is dealt with under two heads, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry.

Agriculture.

No land in Basutoland is cultivated by Europeans with the exception of a few fields in the vicinity of Mission stations, which are used for demonstration purposes; these are held under the same land tenure system as those of the natives. Cultivation is, in the main, carried out by individual native agriculturists who are given lands by the Chiefs on which to grow food for themselves and their families. It is estimated that approximately one-fifteenth of the country is under the plough.

The chief products of the Territory are maize, kaffir corn and wheat. Peas, beans, barley, oats, pumpkins, and potatoes are also grown, but not to any appreciable extent. Maize and kaffir corn form the staple diet of the natives, and only a very small percentage of these commodities is therefore exported.

Maize.—There was a grave shortage of this crop during the 1931 season. This was attributed to the lateness of the spring rains, in consequence of which the sowing was delayed and a larger proportion of land than usual was left unsown. The prevalence of the cutworm and the mealie stalk borer being heavier than usual, and bad droughts obtaining throughout the country during the tasseling period of the mealies, added to the disadvantages under which the crop was grown. In spite of this, however, it is estimated that from approximately 200,000 acres of land under cultivation, 486,100 bags of mealies were reaped of which only 295 bags were exported.

Kaffir Corn.—This crop suffered under much the same disadvantages as did the maize crop, and, out of approximately 81,000 acres under cultivation, 243,000 bags of kaffir corn were reaped, of which 16,247 were exported.

Wheat.—Wheat is used for food only by the more advanced natives and by those living in the higher altitudes where the growing of other crops for food is more or less impossible. The crop reaped in the 1931 harvest totalled roughly 182,300 bags out of approximately 100,000 acres under cultivation in 1930. 103,706 bags were exported during 1931.

Peas and Beans.—These are grown by the natives on a comparatively small scale. About half the crop is consumed within the Territory, and the remainder which amounted to 4,119 bags during 1931 was exported.

Other Crops.—Barley, oats, pumpkins, and potatoes are very little grown, and are mainly consumed within the Territory. The amount exported is negligible.

General.—It is estimated that 1,027,600 bags of mixed grain, chiefly maize, was consumed in Basutoland during the year under review; of this amount roughly 26,000 bags were imported owing to local shortages. In normal years the Territory produces enough for local consumption.

Forestry.—There are very few varieties of trees indigenous to the Territory, and nothing in the nature of a forest exists. Poplar groves and willow lined streams are common in some areas and are closely guarded by the local Chief for the purpose of providing roofing beams for huts and stables, etc.

Young trees propagated in the nurseries situated in each of the Camps are available for distribution free of charge to natives and Europeans throughout Basutoland. Every facility is given to Basuto agriculturists to encourage them to undertake tree planting on a bigger scale, and it is gratifying to note that the number of trees issued yearly shows a steady increase. Communal land tenure and the consequent inability of the individual to fence his tree plantation, thus leaving it open to the attack of herds of cattle, sheep, and goats, account to a great extent for the apathy displayed by the Basuto towards this department of agriculture.

Demonstration.—The native is being assisted to improve his methods of agriculture by the appointment of Native Agricultural Demonstrators, who now number sixteen. They are all young men who have passed the Agricultural Diploma of one of the recognized Native Agricultural Schools in the Union of South Africa, and are distributed in each district and sub-district in the Territory. They are also stationed at Roma, Morija, and Leloaleng Training

Institutions and the Lerotholi Technical School, Maseru, where demonstration lands are worked and where agricultural apprentices are trained and the pupils given a course of agricultural lectures.

The general work of all Demonstrators is to give lectures on subjects such as the selection of seed, planting, and proper cultivation of the various crops grown throughout their districts shortly before these operations take place. They also undertake the working of various native lands to show a contrast between them and ordinary lands worked by the natives themselves. In a good season a Demonstrator works from 25 to 30 lands and many obtain an increase of from 50 to 100 per cent.

Experimental work is also being carried out with the use of superphosphate and nitrate of soda. The application of the former has been found to be most beneficial, a land thus fertilized yielding an increase of in the region of 100 per cent. over an unfertilized land which has otherwise been treated in the same way. Nitrate of soda plots have been disappointing. Fertilizer companies have been most helpful in supplying a certain amount of fertilizer to each district free of charge to demonstrate its uses.

Agricultural Societies.—Every endeavour is still being made to foster and encourage the growth and formation of agricultural societies and associations throughout the Territory, with an appreciable amount of success, as a few fairly strong societies are now in operation in different parts of Basutoland.

Soil Erosion.—A very grave evil to both agriculture and animal husbandry, which the Agricultural Department has to combat in Basutoland is the erosion of the soil. Many thousands of tons of the richest soil of Basutoland are estimated to be washed away annually by the torrential summer rains, and the steady yearly increase in erosion in the lowland and mountain areas has caused the Department much concern. Every effort is made by the Demonstrators by way of propaganda to check the increase of this evil, but it is feared that so long as land is held communally, little success will attend their efforts. It is the old case of where it is every one's duty to prevent it, it is no one's duty.

One of the chief factors in the increase of erosion is the steady migration of the natives from the lowlands to the mountain areas, and the consequent change in the nature of the hinterland from a purely pastoral to a semi-pastoral, semi-agricultural aspect, necessitating as it does the natives ploughing on the mountain slopes.

Animal Husbandry.

This department of production has, in the past, been the most important economically in the Territory, the principal factor being sheep and goat breeding for the production of wool and mohair, and cattle raising. Horses have also in the past played their part in the economic development of the Territory.

Sheep and Goats.—It is estimated that in 1931 there were 2,828,700 sheep and 1,005,800 goats in the Territory. In the past very little has been done to improve the breed in either of these animals. In order to avoid deterioration in the breeding of sheep as a wool producing industry, legislation has been issued prohibiting the importation of Persian and bastard rams, and from time to time a good stamp of Merino ram has been introduced by the Government and distributed amongst certain of the more progressive breeders. The efforts of the Veterinary Department have, however, been mainly concentrated on the eradication of scab, which is now practically accomplished. It has been unfortunate that owing to financial stress, drastic reductions in the staff of the Scab Division have been necessary during the past year, but it is hoped that with the reduced staff which has been retained it will be possible to maintain the present position.

The year under review has been a disastrous one for the sheep-breeder, and it has been difficult to realize that prices obtaining for wool and mohair could drop so low. Latterly, natives have been receiving only 1d. per lb. for their wool, and from 3d. to 4d. for their best mohair; and even at these prices they have been at times unsaleable. This has proved a big blow to the economic condition of the Territory, whose prosperity has always depended so much on wool and mohair. The fall in the price of wool has reacted similarly on the value of fat sheep; and hamels (wethers) which two years ago had a ready sale at £1 are to-day only worth about one-third of their former value.

In analysing these difficulties, it would appear to be clear that the Basuto will never again reach the pinnacle of prosperity which they experienced during the world war period, when at all times they could get a good price for any sort of wool or mohair, good, bad, and indifferent. All indications clearly show that unless the Basuto sheep-owner is capable of realizing the altered conditions and of bringing more intelligence and effort into the production and marketing of his wool and mohair, the outlook is very gloomy.

Basutoland is considered to have the best natural sheep and goat pasturage and climate in South Africa, and there is no doubt that if brains and energy were brought to bear on their production, some of the best Fine Merino wool and mohair could be grown. A scheme is now under consideration whereby the Government will make a definite and practical attempt to improve the breed of sheep in the country; and investigations are being made by the Empire Marketing Board for the future marketing of Basuto wool and mohair.

Cattle.—An attempt was made several years ago to improve the stamp of cattle produced in the Territory by the introduction of a number of pure-bred Afrikander bulls, but was not attended with any marked success.

Economically, practically the whole of the domestic and tribal laws of the Basuto are centred in cattle, and the wealth of the average native is indicated by the number of stock possessed. The question of improving the breed seldom occurs to him inasmuch as in his view a beast is a beast and can be used for practically any domestic transaction such as payment of dowry, compensation, or for fines imposed. It is perhaps for this reason that he is generally apathetic to any advice on the subject. There are, however, indications of a growing tendency among the more enlightened and progressive natives to alter their views in this respect, as purchases of a better stamp from farmers in the Union are now more frequently made than in former years.

It is estimated that there were approximately 650,000 cattle in Basutoland in 1931, and of that number 18,059 were exported during the year. The greater proportion of this number were oxen bought for ploughing purposes by the neighbouring farmers in the Union, while a small proportion of those from the eastern border were exported through the Durban abbatoirs as meat for Italy.

Anthrax is practically the only epidemic of a serious nature among cattle. During the year 23 outbreaks of this disease were reported, but prompt inoculation in each case eliminated any serious losses—the Onderstepoort vaccine proving on the whole satisfactory.

Horses.—Basuto ponies were at one time much sought after throughout the whole of South Africa, being of sturdy build, sure-footed, and hardy. During the South African War the Territory was largely depleted of its best types for remount purposes, and as a result of this there has been considerable deterioration of the breed subsequently produced which has lost several of its former admirable qualities. Many years ago a Government Stud was introduced in an attempt to improve the stamp and to check further deterioration. The original policy was to introduce Arab blood, but later this was changed and thoroughbred stallions were substituted. In the light of subsequent experience it would almost appear to be a matter for regret that the original policy was not maintained inasmuch as the average unenlightened native pays little or no regard for the care of the mother or the foal. This is instanced by the fact that a Mosuto thinks nothing of undertaking a long journey on horseback with a foal at foot of perhaps a few weeks old. For this reason and because of the general conditions obtaining in the Territory, it is thought that the Arab would have been able to stand up to it better than the thoroughbred.

During the year under review 109 mares were served at the Stud —mostly by "Landing" and "Vibration" who have sired some promising foals. 65 mares proved in foal from the previous season, and no reports were received of a further 21 mares.

Strangles and biliary fever have been prevalent amongst horses, and the former has, at times assumed serious proportions. Equine mange is diminishing, which is due to the work of the Dip Supervisors who treat all animals suffering from this disease. Equine hepatic cirrhosis, which 24 years ago was confined to the eastern border, has in the last few years spread with remarkable rapidity across the Maluti Mountains to the eastern slopes of the last range on the western side. The disease is due to the ingestion of the plant, senecio latifolia, which has found ideal conditions in the overstocked pasturage of the mountains. It is due largely to this disease, and also to overstocking and generally bad seasons, that it is estimated that the number of horses in the Territory has dropped in the last two years from 200,000 to 120,000.

General.—Overstocking and denudation which have caused in many areas the complete extinction of the natural grasses of the country, have largely contributed to the deterioration of all classes of live stock, and until the native mind can grasp the idea that quality and not quantity counts in the matter of live stock as in everything else, it is to be feared that very little progress can be made in overcoming this evil. The innate love for numbers of cattle rather than quality is an inherent characteristic of the Bantu mind, and all who have had close contact with them will realize the difficulties encountered and the patience required to dissuade them from this belief.

It is probable that the present economic stress will lead to a big diminution of overstocking in the near future as evidence is not lacking to show that the shortage of food is driving the Basuto to consume more stock than is usual; nor is this to be regretted so long as discrimination is exercised in the slaughtering of the many thousands of low grade animals that to-day have no market value whatsoever beyond their local food asset.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

The following is a comparative statement of the imports and exports by general traders during the last three years :—

Imports.

Description.	*1929*		*1930*		*1931*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£		£
Merchandise	—	669,008	—	431,534	—	389,237
Livestock :—	*No.*		*No.*		*No.*	
Horses, mules, etc.	251	501	12	34	12	70
Cattle	2,428	6,351	645	1,526	436	996
Sheep and goats	149	207	312	163	344	144
Grain :—	*Bags.*		*Bags.*		*Bags.*	
Wheat and wheat meal	5,415	8,837	5,179	6,760	4,917	7,529
Maize and maize meal	25,049	17,398	61,416	30,318	139,901	63,302
Kaffir corn	4,315	3,030	10,828	7,090	1,374	1,015
Other Produce	—	1,084	—	524	—	440
Totals	—	£706,416	—	£477,949	—	£462,733

Exports.

Live Stock :—	*No.*	£	*No.*	£	*No.*	£
Horses, mules, etc.	104	534	78	330	178	717
Cattle	1,496	6,678	3,617	14,121	8,337	27,616
Sheep and goats	26	25	1,103	552	2,420	497
Grain :—	*Bags.*		*Bags.*		*Bags.*	
Wheat and wheat meal	72,103	64,408	131,308	105,330	103,706	90,888
Maize and maize meal	87,404	42,144	6,061	2,169	295	168
Kaffir corn	37,056	21,334	4,032	2,374	10,247	6,821
Oats	—	—	—	—	4	1
Barley	90	50	224	63	89	22
Beans and peas	4,312	5,461	5,873	4,233	4,119	2,214
Wool and Mohair :—	*Lb.*		*Lb.*		*Lb.*	
Wool	12,937,198	436,083	9,729,169	156,601	9,325,140	98,304
Mohair	1,961,746	94,352	942,725	21,837	1,241,743	21,442
Skins and Hides :—						
Skins	365,039	8,327	359,767	3,747	119,619	679
Hides	445,286	15,126	371,620	6,044	186,015	2,013
Miscellaneous	—	272	—	225	—	45
Totals	—	£694,794	—	£317,626	—	£251,427

All exports are made to the Union of South Africa and imports are, as a general rule, made through the same channel. The past few years have been chiefly characterized by the low prices obtaining for wool and mohair, the staple products of the Territory, on the value of which the main purchasing power of the native depends. With the fall in purchasing power, there is little prospect at present of further development of trade with Great Britain. The principal articles of British manufacture for which there exist definite possibilities of further development in trade are blankets, native truck and agricultural implements (excluding steam or motor driven machinery).

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

There are no factories or industrial undertakings in the Territory, and there is only one mile of railway, which is owned and operated by the South African Railway Administration.

Salaries and wages earned by Europeans vary from £200 to £850 per annum in the case of Government servants, and from £120 to £500 per annum in the case of employees of trading concerns.

Native wages vary from £24 per annum to £204 in the case of Government employees; and from £15 to £48 per annum in the case of store-boys, etc., employed by traders.

Natives employed on contract and proceeding outside the Territory for work on the goldmines, etc., receive an average wage of £3 *per mensem* and food.

The average cost of living for single natives is estimated at £1 *per mensem*, and for married natives £3 *per mensem*. The cost of living of Europeans varies considerably and is in a great measure dependent on the social or official position of the person concerned.

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education in Basutoland is mainly in the hands of three Missions, the Paris Evangelical Mission Society, the Roman Catholic Mission, and the English Church Mission, who receive grants-in-aid from the Government. These Mission schools are scattered over the country fairly equally in proportion to the density of the population, and it is probable that there are very few children who are not within reach of a school.

The chief aim of education in Basutoland is to study the interests of the vast majority of children who only have a short school life, more or less irregular, for three or four years. To this end the education in the lower classes is almost entirely in the vernacular

so that the child becomes literate in his own language and is therefore not taken out of his environment. The country unfortunately is not well suited to the teaching of indigenous arts and crafts owing to the lack of available material, but wherever possible sewing is encouraged among the girls and gardening or other manual work among the boys.

There are 541 aided elementary schools, taught mainly through the vernacular, although English is started in the upper classes. Then come the intermediate schools, 39 in number of which 3 are Government schools, managed by committees, the rest being Mission schools. Finally there are 10 institutions which give specialized training, e.g., normal, industrial, or agricultural. Apart from the 3 intermediate schools, the only Government school is the Lerotholi Technical School at Maseru under its own Director.

Altogether in 1931 there were 56,451 pupils on the roll, with an average attendance of 41,366. The Education Vote for the year ended 31st March, 1932, was £48,995.

In addition to the above-mentioned schools, there are 241 schools registered by the three Missions—but not drawing grants—with a roll of about 6,000 pupils. When the financial position improves it is hoped that these schools will receive Government aid.

No fees are charged in elementary or intermediate schools, nor is attendance compulsory. Home duties and agricultural and pastoral work interfere with the regularity of school attendance, but on the whole Basuto children show wonderful keenness in attending school. A written examination for Standard VI is open to pupils from all parts of the country, from the results of which approximately six bursaries are awarded each year so that a child of exceptional ability can continue his education at one of the institutions. University education is provided at the South African Native College at Fort Hare in the Union of South Africa, to which Basutoland contributes £300 per annum, besides providing an annual bursary for a promising Mosuto student. Thus it is possible for even the poorest child to proceed from his village school to the South African Native College.

Night schools are held in a few of the Camps and are attended chiefly by herd-boys and men-servants who work in Camp during the day.

Although the Missions are chiefly concerned with Mission and school work there is no doubt that indirectly they do a great deal to promote public welfare. Each Mission Station is undoubtedly a centre of civilization with its various branches radiating around it, so that there are very few parts of the country which do not feel their influence.

Recreation is encouraged in every school, but owing to the scattered nature of the population and the domestic work required

of the children, it is difficult to arrange regular competitions. At certain Mission Stations in the Lowlands, however, some sports meetings have been held and have aroused much enthusiasm. In the Camps the older inhabitants have formed sports clubs ; tennis, cricket, and football being the popular games.

Pathfinder and Wayfarer bodies have been started in several centres with every prospect of success.

At most Mission centres, annual singing competitions are held and are very popular with students, teachers, and the general public alike.

A detailed Annual Report on Native Education is published separately.

European Education.—There are 9 small schools in the Territory, managed by local committees and supported by the Government, which provide elementary education for the children in the Camps. For education beyond the elementary stage, children are sent to schools in the Union. The Government provides annually one bursary (for children under thirteen years of age) of £25 for two years ; and latterly, through the generosity of Frasers' Ltd., a second bursary of £50 per annum for two years (also for children under thirteen years) has been instituted.

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Railways.

The Territory is linked with the Union of South Africa railway system by a short branch line—one mile of which is in Basutoland—from Marseilles to Maseru on the Bloemfontein-Natal main line. This railway system, however, follows closely the boundaries of the Territory and goods are transported by road to the nearest railway station across the border.

Roads and Bridle Paths.

The greater part of Basutoland is exceptionally mountainous and in this area all transport is effected with the use of pack animals. The Government undertakes repairs to a few of the main bridle paths.

On the western side of Basutoland where there is an agricultural strip of country stretching from north to south, a fairly good road system has been developed. The main roads traverse the whole distance of this strip with branches leading west to the principal points of exit. In nearly all cases the roads are gravelled and allow

for motor or ox-waggon traffic in all weather. There are, however, a number of unbridged rivers and spruits, which, during flood periods, often delay travelling for some hours.

During 1931 regravelling and reshaping of the roads has been carried out systematically to the extent of the funds available. Practically no construction work has been undertaken, but approximately 120 culverts have been erected and much work has been done on improvement to road drainage.

From the main roads a number of feeder roads lead towards the interior. By-roads to Trading Stations, Missions, etc., connect with the feeder roads traversing still further into the interior, but although several roads now cross the first range of mountains, none have yet penetrated to the second range. Feeder roads are maintained by the Government and although a slight improvement in them can be recorded during 1931, they are still of a disappointingly low standard. During the year under review a commencement was made to construct culverts on a few of them, and if funds are available to extend this practice they should gradually improve.

The by-roads are in many instances unsuitable for any type of traffic excepting ox-wagons. They are maintained by traders and others to whose station they lead, assisted by annual Government grants on the £ for £ principle.

On the eastern side of Basutoland in the Qacha's Nek district a short system of roads similar to that described above exists, and the standard reached is more or less the same as that obtaining on the western side of the Territory.

The road policy of the Government has been to build up and improve gradually the existing roads, and all expenditure goes towards maintenance and betterment and does not provide for the carrying out of a constructional programme.

The funds allocated during the last three years for the maintenance of roads, bridges, ponts, etc., of which 98 per cent. is used for roads, are given below :—

1929.	1930.	1931.
£21,000	£21,000	£17,000

The following table gives a classification of the class and mileage of roads in the Territory :—

Concrete, Asphaltic Bituminous Surface.	*Water-bound Macadam Surface Tarred.*	*Gravel.*	*Earth.*
Nil	Nil	320 miles Main Road. 62 miles Feeder Road.	40 miles Main Road. 70 miles Feeder Road.

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS, AND MEASURES.

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks within the Territory. The Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, has a branch at Maseru, as also has the Bloemfontein Board of Executors and Trust Company, Limited.

Coins current in Basutoland comprise British, Union of South Africa and late South African Republic. It is estimated that the total coinage and paper money in circulation at the end of 1931 was £7,500 and £25,000 respectively. Until the latter part of 1931, the Maseru branch of the Standard Bank only circulated Rhodesian issue bank notes. When Rhodesia left the Gold Standard, however, and decided to follow sterling all these notes were called in and exchanged at par. Reserve bank-notes of the Union of South Africa are now the only notes issued by the local branch of the Standard Bank.

The weights and measures in common use in the Territory are the British Imperial.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Owing to the financial stringency, the activities of the Public Works Department were considerably curtailed during 1931. The following works were, however, undertaken in addition to miscellaneous upkeep and repairs to all Government buildings and plants :—

New reservoirs were built at Leribe and Quthing for storage supplies ; and at Teyateyaneng the new water scheme to pump 2,000 gallons of water from a borehole two miles from the storage reservoirs through a head of 700 feet has been completed.

A Government intermediate school to accommodate 130 children was built with native labour at Matsieng near the Paramount Chief's village.

At the Leper Settlement 15 rondavels were built to accommodate convalescent lepers.

Extensive repairs were undertaken to Government quarters and buildings at Maseru, Leribe, and Butha Buthe.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE AND POLICE.

Justice.

The laws in force in Basutoland are the same as were in force in the Cape of Good Hope up to 18th March, 1884, except where repealed or altered by Proclamation of the High Commissioner who is empowered to make by Proclamation such laws as may be necessary for the peace, order, and good government of the Territory.

The Basutoland Courts of Law consist of :—

(*a*) *The Resident Commissioner's Court* which constitutes the supreme Court of Basutoland, and from which an appeal lies to the Privy Council. Under Proclamation No. 10 of 1928, as amended, the constitution of the Resident Commissioner's Court was altered, and provision made for the appointment of a Judicial Commissioner. The Court is now constituted by the Resident Commissioner or when deputed by him thereto the Deputy Resident Commissioner or the Judicial Commissioner sitting alone or together ; and there may be associated with the Court, not more than two officers of the Administration, appointed by the Resident Commissioner for the purpose by notice in the *Gazette*. The Resident Commissioner when present and, in his absence, the Judicial Commissioner shall be President of the Court and the judgment of the Court is the judgment pronounced or approved by the President.

The power conferred on the Resident Commissioner to review and correct the proceedings of Courts or officers may be exercised also by the Judicial Commissioner, and any decision recorded or action taken by the Judicial Commissioner in the course of such review or correction shall be of the same force and effect as if it had been recorded or taken by the Resident Commissioner.

(*b*) *Courts of Assistant Commissioners*, who are empowered to impose sentences not exceeding two years' imprisonment with hard labour, or fines not exceeding £50 ; with jurisdiction in civil cases up to £500. These Courts have no jurisdiction, however, to try summarily any person charged with treason, murder, attempt to murder, culpable homicide, rape, attempt to commit rape, or sedition ; and in these cases and other serious crimes preparatory examinations are held.

These Courts are situated in each of the seven districts and in the sub-district of Butha Buthe. Police Officers have been given minor jurisdiction in the Courts of Assistant Commissioners to try minor offences, with power to impose sentences not exceeding 6 months' imprisonment with hard labour, and fines not exceeding £10. Detached courts are held in the sub-districts of Peka and Mokhotlong presided over by Police Officers exercising minor jurisdiction.

(*c*) *Chiefs' Courts.*—Under Proclamation No. 2B of 1884, the Paramount Chief and other native Chiefs of Basutoland were authorized to continue to exercise jurisdiction according to native law and custom in civil and criminal cases within such limits as may be defined by any rules established by the authority of the Resident Commissioner, subject to a proviso that no suit, action, or proceeding whatsoever to which any European shall be a party, either as plaintiff or complainant, or as defendant, shall be adjudicated upon by any such Chief, save by the consent of all parties concerned. An appeal lies from the decision of any Chief to the Court of the Assistant Commissioner of the District within which such Chief exercises jurisdiction.

The following table shows the number of convictions for various crimes and offences during the last five years :—

Nature of Crime.	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*
In Magisterial Courts.					
Offences against the person	287	438	213	219	190
Offences against property	272	253	221	282	299
Offences against liquor laws ...	37	42	57	47	41
Other crimes	1,484	1,429	1,313	1,968	2,406
In the Resident Commissioner's Court.					
Murder	1	1	6	10	11
Culpable homicide	24	20	30	23	14
Attempted murder	1	4	5	—	3
Rape	—	2	5	2	9
Other offences against the person	4	2	1	6	9
Offences against property with violence to the person.	48	4	33	52	50
Other offences against property...	15	3	14	31	17
Other crimes	—	—	—	—	2

Police.

Constitution and Command.—The Basutoland Mounted Police is maintained under the Basutoland Proclamation No. 12 of 1921. The Force is under the control of the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland who is also the Commandant, with a Staff Officer who is resident at Maseru.

Some years ago a training depot for all recruits was instituted at Maseru under the supervision of the Staff Officer, with a Warrant Officer as Drill Instructor, a native Sergeant-Major and a native Non-Commissioned Officer. Refresher courses were undertaken for drafts sent in from the districts from time to time, and a competent and efficient detachment was thus maintained. Unfortunately for the general efficiency of the Force, the depot had to be closed down in November, 1931, on account of grave financial considerations which made it imperative to reduce the numbers of the personnel of the Police.

Finger-print work is also carried out by the Warrant Officer attached to the depot. This branch continues to perform valuable

assistance by supplying the Courts with the previous criminal history of accused persons whose finger-prints are sent in for identification. During the year under review 955 finger-prints were received and recorded.

Establishment.—The establishment of the Force on 31st December, 1931, was as follows :—

Europeans—		*Native Police*—	
Staff Officer	1	Sergeant-Major ...	1
Inspectors	5	Sergeants	14
Sub-Inspectors ...	6	Corporals	15
Warrant Officer ...	1	Privates	289
		Saddlers	4
Total	13	Total	323

Distribution and Duties.—Mounted detachments of the Force are stationed in Maseru and in the various districts of the Territory, under the command of European officers of the establishment who are responsible for the general police routine being carried out within their districts and for the efficiency of their respective detachments. The following table shows the distribution of the strength :—

Station.	*Officers.*	*Warrant Officers.*	*Non-Commissioned Officers.*	*Men.*	*Remarks.*
Butha Buthe ...	—	—	3	27	—
Leribe	2(*a*)	—	4	23	(*a*) 1 Acting Assistant Commissioner.
Peka	1	—	1	10	—
Teyateyaneng ...	1	—	2	24	—
Maseru	2(*b*)	—	3	40	(*b*) 1 seconded for other duties.
Depot	1	1	2(*c*)	1(*c*)	(*c*) Seconded to Maseru Detachment.
Mafeteng	1	—	4	29	—
Quthing	1	—	3	38	—
Mohales Hoek ...	1	—	2	31	—
Qacha's Nek ...	1	—	4	48	—
Mokhotlong ...	1	—	2	18	—
Totals ...	12	1	30	289	

The conduct and health of the Police have been uniformly good throughout the year, there having been only four dismissals during 1931.

Patrols, etc.—During the year under review, 8,868 patrols were sent out and covered approximately 257,524 miles. 4,855 cases

were investigated by the Police, which resulted in the arrest of 3,668 persons, of which number 2,936 were convicted summarily, and 115 in the Resident Commissioner's Court. The cases investigated show an increase of 374, and the number of persons arrested an increase of 541, on the figures of last year, while those convicted summarily show an increase of 405.

General.—Apart from the ordinary Police routine, members of the Force were called upon to perform extraneous duties in assisting in the collection of hut tax and of wool export duty, in providing prison guards, clerical assistance in various district offices, and services in the Medical and Veterinary Departments.

Prisons.

There are gaols at the Headquarter Camp of each of the 7 districts into which the Territory is divided and in the sub-districts of Butha Buthe, Mokhotlong, and Peka.

Buildings.—All gaol buildings are of stone with iron roofs and cement floors—the inmates, however, are provided with bed-boards on which to sleep. The majority of cells are built to contain on the average 8 to 10 prisoners, but there are usually one or two smaller ones for violent or dangerous inmates, or for occasional European convicts. Attached to each prison is an exercise yard and cement baths with water laid on. The cook-house is in the yard, and a daily scale of ration as laid down by Statute is provided. As no special accommodation exists in the district gaols for female or European prisoners, they are invariably transferred to Maseru to serve sentence, etc.

Health.—The health of the prisoners during 1931 has, on the whole, been good—the daily average on the sick list being 15·76; 11 deaths and 8 executions were recorded during the year. All prisoners are medically examined on admission, and the Medical Officers make regular visits to the gaols, apart from the weekly inspection when they accompany the District Administrative Officer in charge. Prisoners reporting sick are taken to the Government Dispensary, and if necessary are admitted to hospital where they are put into the ordinary public wards and treated on similar lines to other patients.

Discipline.—With the exception of a few breaches of prison discipline, the conduct of the prisoners, on the whole, has been good. In the past the majority of offenders have been stock thieves, and persons committed for public violence in connexion with land disputes with, of course, a large percentage of tax defaulters and persons convicted of offences against the other revenue laws. For the most part they were not the habitual criminal type, and gaol discipline has therefore been more or less easy to maintain. Unfortunately during the last two years there has been an influx of the more criminal type, owing to the deportation of bad characters by

the Union Government ; and it is feared that this will in the future be detrimental both to discipline and to the morals of the inmates of the gaols.

Labour.—During the year 1931, convicts have been utilized to a greater extent than in previous years on road construction and maintenance in the vicinity of the various Camps. But as a general rule, where possible, they are trained to become useful members of society on release, by instruction in such trades as masonry, carpentry, building, and other kinds of manual labour.

Sentences.—The majority of offenders are given the option of a fine or imprisonment with hard labour, but for the more serious offences, sentences of imprisonment only are imposed. Provision has been made under Proclamation No. 55 of 1921, for the punishment of offenders in certain cases under which the Court may in its discretion :—

(*a*) postpone for a period not exceeding six months the passing of sentence, and release the offender on one or more conditions ; or

(*b*) pass sentence but order the operation of the sentence to be suspended for a period not exceeding three years on such conditions as the Court may specify in the order ; or

(*c*) pass sentence of a fine or, in default of payment, imprisonment, but suspend the issue of a warrant for committing the offender to a gaol in default of payment until the expiry of such period not exceeding twelve months as the Court may fix for payment in instalments or otherwise, of the amount of the fine or until default has been made.

Suspended sentences are invariably awarded in cases of default of payment of tax and similar offences against the revenue laws. Good conduct remission up to one-fourth of the sentence is allowed.

Statistics.—During the period under review 4,025 persons passed through the various gaols in the Territory, and of these 2,552 were committed to penal imprisonment. The figures for 1930 were 3,480 and 2,012 respectively.

Juvenile Offenders.—It has been the practice for several years to transfer all juvenile prisoners of from 15 to 20 years of age, whose sentences are over three months, to serve their sentences at the Peka Gaol in order to prevent contact as far as possible with adult offenders. At Peka these juveniles are under the close supervision of the Officer-in-Charge, and they are taught stone-cutting, masonry work, road-making, repairs to buildings, and gardening. The gaol is visited weekly by the Medical Officer, Teyateyaneng. Parents of these youths are allowed to visit them on Sundays, and religious services are held fortnightly by a native minister. The average daily number in this gaol during 1931 was 19·7, of which 12·3 were juveniles. Of the juveniles the daily average on the sick list was 0·19, and there was one death during the year.

CHAPTER XIV.

LEGISLATION.

The following legislation was issued during the year by proclamation in the *Gazette* :—

(1) No. 1.—Basutoland Further Appropriation (1929–1930) Proclamation, 1931.

(2) No. 5.—Concealment of Childbirth Proclamation, 1931.

(3) No. 10.—Basutoland Flour and Meal Importation Restriction Proclamation, 1931.

(4) No. 13.—Amending Proclamation No. 58 of 1922 to provide for the appointment of Deputy Assistant Commissioners as Marriage Officers.

(5) No. 16.—Customs Tariff Amendment Proclamation, 1931.

(6) No. 21.—Basutoland Nursing Sisters (Retiring Allowance) Proclamation, 1931.

(7) No. 22.—Basutoland Stamp Duties Amendment Proclamation, 1931. (16 of 1907.)

(8) No. 26.—Basutoland Radio Amendment Proclamation, 1931.

(9) No. 37.—Basutoland Income-Tax Proclamation, 1931.

(10) No. 39.—Basutoland Wool and Mohair Fund Proclamation, 1931.

(11) No. 44.—Amending Proclamation No. 10 of 1928 relating to the Court of the Resident Commissioner.

(12) No. 46.—Basutoland Wool and Mohair Export Duty (Amendment) Proclamation, 1931 (amending No. 14 of 1923 and 43 of 1927).

(13) No. 45.—Basutoland Opium and Habit-forming Drugs Regulation (Amendment) Proclamation, 1931 (amending No. 35 of 1922).

(14) No. 47.—Basutoland Appropriation (1931–32) Proclamation, 1931.

(15) No. 48.—Basutoland Further Appropriation (1930–1931), Proclamation, 1931.

(16) No. 49.—Amending further the Basutoland Wool and Mohair Export Duty Proclamation No. 14 of 1923.

There is no factory legislation or legislation relating to compensation for accidents, etc.

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure for the past five financial years :—

REVENUE.

Head.	*1926–27*	*1927–28*	*1928–29*	*1929–30*	*1930–31*
	£	£	£	£	£
Native Tax	132,072	137,744	141,719	136,237	125,665
Customs and Excise	87,352	92,201	96,072	95,564	77,810
Posts and Telegraphs	7,648	8,466	9,181	9,377	8,883
Licences	8,758	8,938	9,206	9,141	8,068
Fees of Court or Office	933	956	1,094	1,083	810
Judicial Fines	1,911	2,629	2,515	2,039	1,445
Income-Tax	10,784	12,843	16,022	10,732	5,929
Fees for Services Rendered ...	1,278	1,159	1,296	1,387	1,105
Interest	2,158	2,275	3,670	5,101	4,033
Wool Export Duty	17,141	17,918	33,976	32,187	25,436
Miscellaneous	4,369	7,913	10,038	8,943	8,654
Education Levy	—	13,357	15,103	14,885	13,963
Totals	£274,404	£306,399	£339,892	£326,676	£281,801

EXPENDITURE.

Head.	*1926–27*	*1927–28*	*1928–29*	*1929–30*	*1930–31*
	£	£	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner	13,811	12,532	13,099	12,724	12,783
District Administration ...	13,690	13,619	14,118	14,926	15,333
Police	39,164	39,160	38,357	38,678	37,600
Administration of Justice ...	11,194	12,379	11,764	12,087	13,306
Posts and Telegraphs	11,676	11,118	11,568	13,494	12,004
Public Works Department ...	5,218	5,147	5,239	5,276	5,322
Public Works Extraordinary ...	6,872	3,671	2,747	3,597	5,168
Public Works Recurrent ...	25,669	23,044	29,502	30,521	29,774
Medical	22,617	26,121	25,676	26,832	28,202
Education	41,412	54,871	58,596	57,105	53,235
Lerotholi Technical School ...	2,508	6,566	6,658	6,674	5,772
Agriculture—					
Veterinary	27,659	30,874	39,178	37,104	39,140
Agricultural				5,911	6,849
Allowances to Chiefs	11,691	12,002	12,562	14,260	13,754
National Council	1,909	1,641	1,762	1,777	1,634
Leper Settlement	19,401	19,558	19,238	20,077	21,501
Pensions	10,030	11,797	11,828	14,291	12,726
Miscellaneous	6,076	6,970	7,998	8,468	7,225
Capital Expenditure	2,030	3,804	6,687	10,060	1,090
Totals	£272,627	£294,874	£316,577	£333,862	£322,418

Debt.

The Basutoland Administration has no Public Debt, but its liabilities in connexion with the "Guardian's Fund" and the "Basutoland Native Education Fund" were, at 31st March, 1931, £28,712 and £14,359 respectively.

Assets.

The assets at 31st March, 1931, were as follows :—

	£
Standard Bank of South Africa, Ltd.—	
"Current Account"	7,534
"Deposit Account"	15,000
Crown Agents for Colonies—	
"Current Account"	135
"Deposit Account"	51,300
Balances in the hands of Sub-Accountants ...	13,650
Advances recoverable	8,211
On loan to Swaziland Administration	35,000
Stores Suspense	9,160
Total	£139,990

Description of the Main Heads of Taxation.

Native Tax.—The collection under this head for the year ending 31st March, 1931, was £125,665. Fuller details as regards the method of collection, etc., are given on page 29.

Customs and Excise.—Under the Customs Agreement entered into with the Union of South Africa in 1910, the Basutoland Administration receives annually 0·88575 per cent. of the total Customs revenue of the Union, less payments to Northern and Southern Rhodesia and South West Africa. The amount received for the twelve months ended 31st March, 1931, was £76,101.

In addition to the above, a duty is levied on importations of Union manufactured spirits and beer into Basutoland, and the amount received in this connexion for the above period was £1,709, making the total Customs revenue for the Territory, £77,810. The rates of duty on spirits and beer is governed by Part III of the Schedule to Proclamation No. 64 of 1921.

Licences.—Trades and businesses are subject to annual licences in terms of the Schedule to Proclamation No. 28 of 1928, which consolidated and amended the laws relating to the carrying on of businesses in Basutoland. A duty at the rate of $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. is charged upon the purchase consideration in the case of the transfer of a General Trader's Licence. Labour Agents' and Motor Vehicle Registration Licences are governed by Proclamations Nos. 27 of

1907, as amended, and 7 of 1926, as amended, respectively. Assistant Commissioners are responsible for the collection of all licence fees in their districts.

The chief classes of licences and the amount collected in respect of each, during 1931, are as follows :—

	£
General Traders	4,725
Hawkers	548
Labour Agents	292
Labour Runners	168
Commercial Travellers	543
Miscellaneous	644
Motor Registration...	1,048
Motor Drivers	72
Transfer Fees	27
Total	£8,067

Income-Tax.—The collection of income-tax is governed by the Basutoland Income-Tax Proclamation No. 52 of 1920, as amended. The general provisions of the Principal Proclamation apply each year to the determination of the taxable amount upon which the tax is to be levied and the collection of the amount payable in respect of that taxable amount, but the actual rates to be levied are fixed by Proclamation each year.

The taxes imposed for the year 1930 were : (i) Normal Tax, (ii) Super Tax ; and the rates were fixed as follows :—

(i) Normal Tax :—

(*a*) In the case of companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, two shillings and sixpence.

(*b*) In the case of persons other than companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, one shilling and as many two-thousandths of a penny as there are pounds in that amount, subject to a maximum rate of two shillings in every pound.

(ii) Super Tax :—

(*a*) When the amount subject to super tax does not exceed twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, one shilling and as many five-hundredths of one penny as there are pounds in that amount.

(*b*) When the amount subject to super tax exceeds twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, five shillings.

The amount collected for the income-tax year ended 30th June, 1930, was as follows :—

	£
Current Normal Tax	5,264
Arrear Normal Tax	367
Current Super Tax	292
Arrear Super Tax	6
Total	£5,929

The following table shows the sources from which taxable incomes were derived and the amount of tax paid from each source, and also compares the collection with that of the previous year.

Source.	1929–30	1930–31	+ *or* —
	£	£	£
General Traders	7,515	2,464	— 5,051
Civil Servants	1,128	1,216	+ 88
Employed Persons	460	262	— 198
Others	836	1,015	+ 179
Non-Residents	793	972	+ 179
Totals	£10,732	£5,929	—£4,803

The number of incomes for current tax and the total amounts of taxable incomes in the various categories were :—

Number.	*Category.*	*Taxable Income.*
		£
35	£500 and under.	13,642
41	£501 to £750.	25,692
26	£751 to £1,000.	22,361
21	£1,001 to £1,500.	24,131
5	£1,501 to £2,000.	8,895
7	£2,001 and over.	31,650
135		£126,371

Wool Export Duty.—The imposition and the collection of the duty on wool and mohair exported from the Territory are governed by the Wool and Mohair Export Duty Proclamation No. 14 of 1923 as amended. This duty was originally imposed to help to defray the expenses of the costly campaign inaugurated to eradicate scab among sheep and goats which was at that time very rife throughout Basutoland.

The duty levied during the twelve months ended 31st March, 1931, was one-halfpenny upon every pound of wool or mohair exported, and the total receipts for this period amounted to £25,436. Owing to the low prices obtaining for wool and mohair, the duty

was reduced as from 1st September, 1931, to 2d. for every 12½ lb. exported, but the amount collected under this reduced levy will only be reflected in the figures for the financial year ending 31st March, 1932.

Education Levy.—In accordance with Proclamation No. 13 of 1927, every adult native male domiciled in Basutoland has to pay a levy of three shillings per annum, and the total amount collected each year is credited to a special fund known as the "Basutoland Native Education Fund," and is devoted solely to purposes of native education. For purposes of convenience this levy is collected in conjunction with the hut tax, and both are embodied in one receipt which is superscribed, "Hut Tax, £1 5s. 0d.; Education Levy, 3s."

Customs Tariff.

In accordance with the Customs Agreement entered into with the Union Government in 1910, the Basutoland Administration maintains a Customs tariff similar to that which exists in the Union of South Africa.

Excise and Stamp Duties.

Stamp duties are imposed in terms of Proclamation No. 16 of 1907 as amended, and are mostly chargeable in respect of the following instruments, acts, etc., arbitrations and awards, bills of exchange, bonds, courts of law, acts and deeds of donations, leases, transfers, and in respect of duties performed by the Master of Court.

Hut Tax.

Hut tax is imposed by the Basutoland Native Tax Proclamation, 1911, (as amended). Every adult male native domiciled in Basutoland is liable for the payment of a tax at the rate of twenty-five shillings per annum and in addition, if such native has more than one wife according to native custom, a further sum of twenty-five shillings for every such additional wife. No native, however, is liable to pay in respect of himself and his wives, more than three pounds fifteen shillings in any one year. A native inhabitant of the Union who resides in Basutoland for twelve months becomes liable to taxation in respect of that year, unless he is able to prove payment of tax in the country of his permanent residence.

Assistant Commissioners are empowered to exempt from the payment of tax for any one year or more, any native who is incapacitated by extreme old age, personal infirmity, or other causes from earning a livelihood.

The Assistant Commissioners are in charge of the collection of tax in their districts, which duty they carry out through the Chiefs and Headmen who are nominally responsible to them for the collection in their respective wards. Paid native collectors operate in each

district under the supervision of the Assistant Commissioners, and in conjunction with the Chiefs to whose wards they are appointed. To encourage the Chiefs to interest themselves in this department of their duties, they are paid annual gratuities based on a percentage of the yearly collection in their respective wards. Facilities also exist, and are largely used both by individuals and by labour recruiting agencies, for the payment of tax at the Government Offices situated in each of the Camps, and at the more important ports of exit. Members of the Basutoland Mounted Police are invariably employed towards the end of each financial year to patrol the districts, accompanied by Chiefs' messengers, to give a stimulus to the collection and to bring in defaulters.

The collection for the year ended 31st March, 1931, was approximately £10,500 less than that of the previous year, and £16,000 less than that of 1928–29.

J. H. SIMS,

Acting Deputy Resident Commissioner and Government Secretary.

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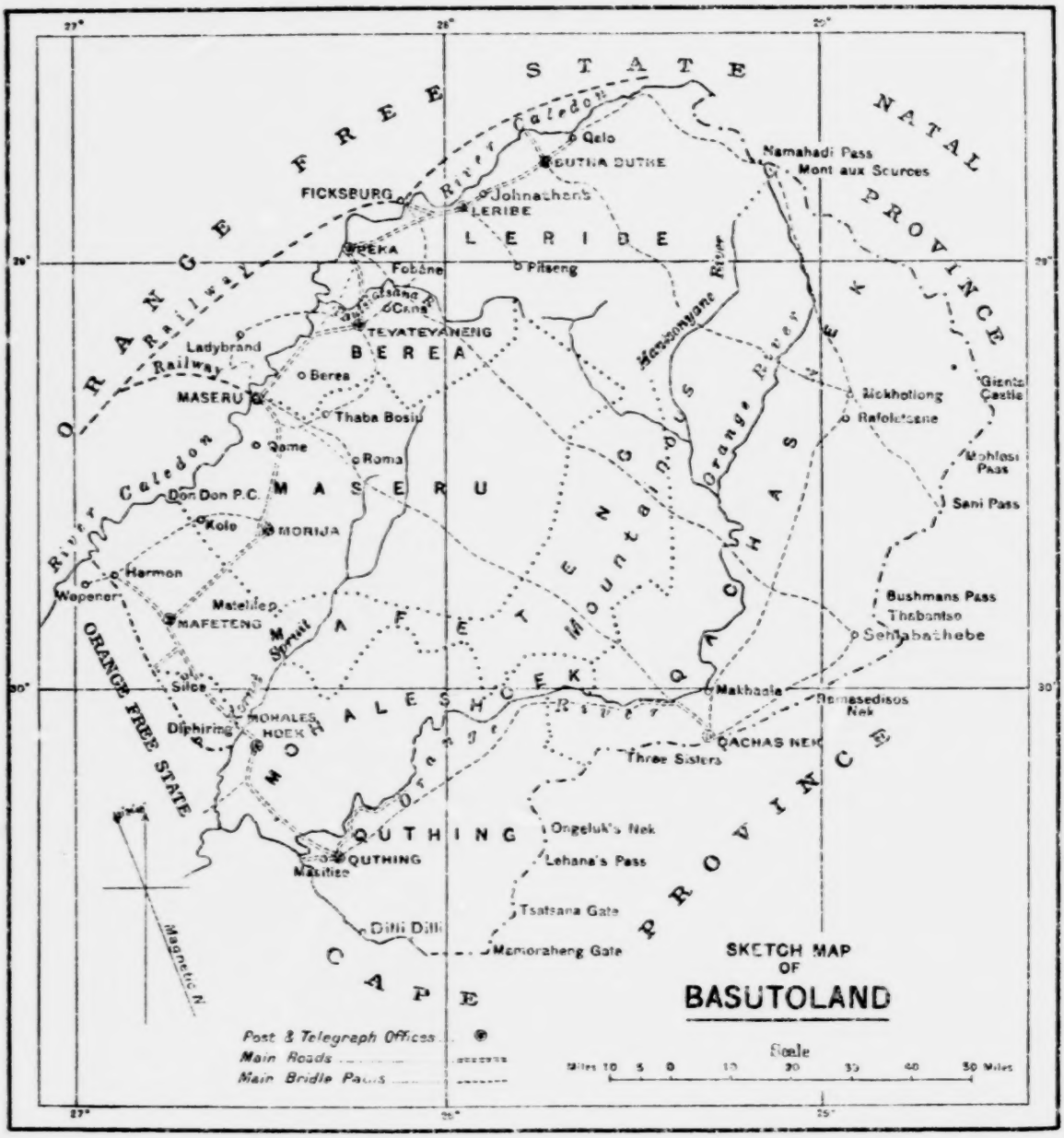
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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BASUTOLAND FOR THE YEAR 1932.

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CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

Basutoland, which is a native territory in South Africa, is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, and on the south by the Cape Province. Its area is 11,716 square miles. It lies between 28° 35′ and 30° 40′ South latitude and between 27° and 29° 30′ East longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 ft. to 11,000 ft. above sea-level, and the climate is, on the whole, healthy. The Maluti Mountains, which occupy most of the territory to the east, were in former years reserved entirely as cattle posts, but owing to the increase in population the Basuto have found it necessary to migrate there, build villages, and cultivate the land, so that to-day this more or less inaccessible area is gradually becoming as thickly populated as

the low-lying country to the west. The result of this invasion into the mountain area is the disappearance of all big game, such as eland and hartebeest, which used to abound some thirty years ago, and the gradual elimination of the smaller buck and all species of wild fowl.

The climate is good for Europeans and natives alike. The high altitude and pure atmosphere prove most invigorating. *Phthisis pulmonalis* is little known except among Europeans who have come to the country on account of this disease, and if they come in the early stages of the disease they improve at once. Persons suffering from malaria fever or its results are benefited greatly by a short residence in Basutoland.

The range of temperature is approximately from a maximum of 93° F. to a minimum of 11° F. The average annual rainfall is 30 inches. the total recorded at the Mafeteng Inland Barometric Station during 1932 being 23·16 inches.

In 1818 the first Paramount Chief of Basutoland, Moshesh, gathered the various remnants of tribes which had become scattered about South Africa during the wars waged by Moselekatse, the king of the Matabele, and thus founded what has become the Basuto nation. The estimated native population is 575,000, while the Europeans, as taken in the last census in 1921, numbered 1,600.

In 1852 war broke out between Moshesh and the British Government; the Basuto were defeated by Sir G. Cathcart at the battle of the Berea Mountain, and Moshesh sent in his submission and made peace. A series of wars then took place from 1856 onwards between the Basuto and the inhabitants of the Orange Free State, and it was not until 1868, when he was hard pressed by the Boers, that Moshesh appealed to the British Government for help and the recognition of his people as British subjects. This was carried into effect by a Proclamation dated the 12th March, 1868, and the event is now commemorated by observing this day as a public holiday, known as "Moshoeshoe's Day." In 1871, the Territory was annexed to the Cape Colony, and, after various disturbances, the Government of the Cape, in April, 1880, extended the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878 to Basutoland, which included a clause for the general disarmament of the Basuto. The Basuto, however, refused to accept the terms and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at by which the Act was repealed and certain fines inflicted on the tribe.

Although outwardly peace had been restored, there still remained several chiefs who would in no way accept the terms, and it was eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This was effected by Order in Council of 2nd February, 1884, which was proclaimed and brought into force by Proclamation 75A of 18th March, 1884.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

The Territory is now governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for South Africa, the latter possessing the legislative authority, which is exercised by Proclamation promulgated in the *Official Gazette*.

For fiscal and other purposes the country is divided into seven districts, each of which is under an Assistant Commissioner, namely, Maseru, Leribe, Berea (or Teyateyaneng, as it is sometimes called), Mafeteng, Mohales Hoek, Quthing, and Qacha's Nek. These districts are sub-divided into wards presided over by the hereditary chiefs and those allied to the Moshesh family, who are responsible to the Paramount Chief in all matters relative to native law and custom.

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

No census has been taken since 1921. The following figures indicate the racial distribution of the population at the last census:—

District.	*Europeans.*	*Bantu.*	*Coloured other than Bantu.*
Leribe	260	107,794	211
Berea	132	56,674	136
Maseru	612	99,378	266
Mafeteng	262	67,279	221
Mohales Hoek ...	159	60,568	281
Quthing	115	38,051	96
Qacha's Nek	63	66,193	30
Totals	1,603	495,937	1,241

Besides the population as enumerated above, 47,141 Basuto were stated to be absent at various labour centres outside the Territory when the census was taken.

The following is a comparative statement of the density of the population (other than Europeans) at the censuses of 1904, 1911, and 1921 :—

	1904.	*1911.*	*1921.*
No. of persons per square mile ...	33·78	38·97	48·30
No. of acres per head of population ...	18·94	16·42	13·25
No. of occupied huts per square mile...	8·42	10·86	16·99
No. of persons to each occupied hut ...	4·01	3·61	2·84

There is no compulsory registration of births and deaths, nor of marriages according to native custom. Marriages according to Christian rites numbered 944 during the year under review, as compared with 643 during 1931, and 740 during 1930.

Every native entering or leaving the Territory must be in possession of an official pass.

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

A perusal of the comparative table of communicable diseases given hereunder indicates that the general health of the Territory during 1932 was not as satisfactory as in previous years :—

Description.	*1931.*	*1932.*
Influenza	550	1,485
Typhoid	247	258
Dysentery	161	135
Typhus	118	238
Whooping Cough	337	948
Measles	119	142
Smallpox	1	1
Scarlet Fever	2	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	261	390
Anthrax	1	3
	1,797	3,603

The death-rate of cases of typhoid treated in the various hospitals was slightly less than last year, being 15 out of 99 as compared with 18 out of 93 treated in 1931. But the death-rate as the result of typhus amongst in-patients is very distressing, being 34 out of 85 cases admitted as compared with 5 out of 21 for the previous year. It is generally accepted that the severity of the disease is one factor accounting for the high death-rate, but general poverty and lack of water are also predisposing causes.

Venereal trouble still accounts for a large number of cases. There were 366 more cases reported than in the previous year, but as there was an increase of 5,642 attendances at the dispensaries it is hoped that the natives are beginning to realize the seriousness of this disease.

There were no cases of plague, although the Union Rodent Inspector was of the opinion in October last that some rodents inside the border had died of it.

As regards general diseases, there is nothing worthy of comment except that cases of malignancy have fallen off somewhat. Wounds by stabbing and cutting instruments still remain up—630 in 1932 as compared with 620 in 1931.

At the hospitals and dispensaries useful and effective work has been carried out as heretofore. The number of out-patients treated was 65,249; of these 44,382 were first and 20,867 subsequent attendances. This shows an increase of 9,473 over last year. 2,827 cases were treated in the various hospitals, including 91 patients carried over from the previous year. There were 241 deaths, which is 62 more than in 1931; but against this there were 163 more cases. 1,384 operations were performed.

The following table gives details of the hospital and dispensary work in each district :—

District.	*In-Patients.*	*Out-Patients.*	*Subsequent Returns.*	*Vaccinations.*	*Revenue.* £
Maseru	814	8,806	6,485	—	614
Leribe	610	6,961	3,253	600	396
Mafeteng	408	8,689	4,859	—	494
Mohales Hoek ...	337	4,485	1,542	—	208
Quthing	237	7,177	1,698	430	279
Qacha's Nek ...	250	3,211	1,269	—	109
Teyateyaneng ...	80	5,053	1,761	—	162
Totals ...	2,736	44,382	20,867	1,030	£2,262

It is with pleasant relief that one notes that there has been no outbreak of disease that could be assigned to insanitary conditions, as the lack of rain has had rather a bad effect on the water supplies throughout the Territory. There was a slight outbreak of intestinal trouble among the prisoners in Maseru, but the Medical Officer, after investigation, found that these men had been surreptitiously drinking river-water.

Leper Settlement.

On 31st December, 1931, the population of the Leper Settlement was 699, composed of 325 males and 374 females. On 31st December, 1932, the population was 714, of which 348 were males and 366 females, showing an increase in males of 23 and a decrease in females of 8. It is interesting to note that in the past two years there has been an increase in males of 56 and a decrease in females of 7.

The following comparative table denotes the numbers of admissions, etc. :—

	Admitted.		*Re-Admitted.*		*Died.*		*Deserted.*		*Discharged.*	
	1931.	*1932.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1931.*	*1932.*
Males	99	70	11	22	42	30	14	29	21	10
Females	71	63	11	17	47	40	6	22	28	26
Totals ...	170	133	22	39	89	70	20	51	49	36

One trusts that the falling off in the number of admissions is indicative of good work done by the Leprosy Health Inspectors, who may be on the verge of a gleaning process; and there would seem to be hope that such is the case when it is seen that the early cases are now so much in predominance over the late variety. Only a small proportion of the patients accepted adequate treatment, the inadequacy being chiefly due to irregularity in attendance for injections. The treatment has been becoming more and more unpopular from year to year, most of the patients having lost faith in the value of the injections.

A detailed Annual Report on Health is published separately.

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

Basutoland is a purely native Territory. There are no factory or industrial undertakings and the problem of the proper accommodation of workers has not therefore arisen.

The natives live in villages under tribal authority and their huts are, on the whole, healthy if primitive. These huts are invariably built of sods or stone, with a mud floor and a thatched roof; and from the figures taken at the 1921 census the average number of persons to each hut occupied was 2·84.

The small European population consists of civil servants, missionaries, and traders, and is, as a rule, well housed in buildings of cut stone or brick.

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

There are no fisheries; and no mining operations are carried out in Basutoland.

Production is dealt with under two heads, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry.

Agriculture.

No land in Basutoland is cultivated by Europeans with the exception of a few fields in the vicinity of mission stations, which are used for demonstration purposes; these are held under the same land tenure system as those of the natives. Cultivation is, in the main, carried out by individual native agriculturists who are given lands by the chiefs on which to grow food for themselves and their families. It is estimated that approximately one-fifteenth of the country is under the plough.

The chief products of the Territory are maize, kaffir corn, and wheat. Peas, beans, barley, oats, pumpkins, potatoes, and other

vegetables are also grown, but not to any appreciable extent. Maize and kaffir corn form the staple diet of the natives, and therefore only a very small percentage of these commodities is exported.

Maize.—It was thought that there would again be a very grave shortage of this crop during 1932, as a smaller area was planted with maize than has been the case in the past. In spite of this, however, a better harvest than was thought possible was reaped, as frost did not make its appearance until late in May and all the later mealies ripened. Insect pests, cutworm and mealie-stalk-borer were much less troublesome than usual; a late drought when many of the mealies were in bloom was, however, responsible for spoiling the yield of many of the earlier planted fields. It is estimated that from approximately 181,000 acres of land under cultivation 450,000 bags of mealies were reaped, of which some 2,000 bags were exported. It is interesting to note that the yield was 36,000 bags short of that of 1931.

Kaffir Corn.—Owing to a very dry spring, much of the kaffir corn was planted too late. In consequence of the season being exceptionally long, however, and of the fact that kaffir corn is much more drought resistant than maize, an excellent crop was reaped. Out of approximately 81,000 acres under cultivation, 276,907 bags of kaffir corn were reaped, and of this number some 7,000 bags were exported. The acreage under cultivation was the same as in 1931, but there was an increase in the yield of some 34,000 bags.

Wheat.—In the lowlands, wheat is used for food only by the more advanced natives; those living in the higher altitudes consume a considerable quantity, as the growing of other crops for food is more or less impossible. Although the majority of the wheat is floor-threshed and is often very dirty, it has always found a good market owing to its excellent qualities for blending. The crop reaped in the 1932 harvest totalled roughly 346,134 bags out of approximately 123,000 acres under cultivation in 1931.

On the advice of Mr. Thornton, Director of Native Agriculture in the Union of South Africa, the Government purchased 200 bags of Rooi Klein Koring wheat seed for trial in the Territory, with the object of improving the type of wheat grown in the mountain areas. This seed was issued to good native agriculturists through the demonstrators, the idea being that it should be refunded after the harvest. It was unfortunate that the past season was such a drought-stricken one, or undoubtedly this wheat would have done better. About 75 per cent. will be returned, and this will be re-issued on the same terms at the 1933 planting season.

Owing to a serious crop shortage in the Mohkotlong district, the Government granted a sum of £300 as a guarantee for bad debts to the traders, on the understanding that they gave out seed wheat

on credit to deserving natives, to be repaid at harvest time. Owing to the extreme drought conditions in the Mokhotlong district, however, it is feared that the scheme will not be as successful as it was hoped. Particulars of the result will not be available until the 1933 report.

Peas and Beans.—The Basuto were beginning to show a keener interest in the growing of these crops, which was an excellent thing, as it helped to restore fertility to some of the poor lands. Unfortunately the grave drop in price will greatly deter them from planting these crops in the future. 3,845 bags were exported during the year.

Other Crops.—Barley and oats are very little grown, and are mainly consumed within the Territory.

Pumpkins and potatoes are grown to some extent, and afford a useful supply of food to the natives before the other crops ripen. The Agricultural Department is doing its utmost to induce the Basuto to take an interest in vegetable gardening, and is being helped in this project by the mission schools and the demonstrators. There are many places throughout the Territory where the water could be led from small streams or dammed up dongas on to small plots ideal for growing vegetables.

General.—It is estimated that some 1,002,000 bags of mixed grain, chiefly maize, were consumed in Basutoland during the year under review; of this amount, roughly 102,000 bags were imported to cover local shortages. In normal years the Territory produces sufficient for local consumption.

Forestry.—There are very few varieties of trees indigenous to the Territory, and nothing in the nature of a forest exists. Young trees propagated in the nurseries situated in each of the Camps are available for distribution free of charge to natives and Europeans throughout Basutoland. Every facility is given to the Basuto agriculturists to encourage them to undertake tree planting on a bigger scale, but the communal land tenure system and the consequent inability of the individual to fence his tree plantation accounts to a great extent for the apathy displayed towards this department of agriculture.

Many trees have died on the reserves and all over the country owing to the prolonged drought. The best drought-resisting trees have been found to be *cedrus deodara*, *pinus halepensis*, and *eucalyptus sideroxylon*. Great mortality has taken place among all the cypress, *pinus insignis*, and *pinaster*.

Demonstration.—The native is being assisted to improve his methods of agriculture by the appointment of Native Agricultural Demonstrators, who now number 24, eight new men having been employed during the year to work in the mountain districts. They are all young men who have passed the Agricultural Diploma of one

of the recognized Native Agricultural Schools in the Union of South Africa, and are distributed in each district and sub-district in the Territory. They are also stationed at Roma, Morija, and Leloaleng Training Institutions and the Lerotholi Technical School at Maseru, where demonstration lands are worked and where agricultural apprentices are trained and the pupils given a course of agricultural lectures.

The general work of all demonstrators is to give lectures on subjects such as the selection of seed, planting, and proper cultivation of the various crops grown throughout their districts shortly before these operations take place. They also undertake the working of various native lands to show a contrast between them and ordinary lands worked by the natives themselves. In a good season a demonstrator works from 25 to 30 lands and may obtain an increase of from 50 to 100 per cent.

Experimental work carried out with superphosphate fertilizer continues to be most beneficial, a land thus fertilized yielding an increase of in the region of 100 per cent. over an unfertilized land which has otherwise been treated in the same manner. Nitrate of soda plots have been disappointing.

Agricultural Societies.—Every endeavour is still being made to foster and encourage the growth and formation of agricultural societies and associations throughout the Territory, with an appreciable amount of success, as a few fairly strong societies are now in operation in different parts of Basutoland, especially at Teyateyaneng, Leribe, and Mohales Hoek. It is, however, unfortunate that it is so difficult to get the Basuto to co-operate : constant help and talks are necessary to keep them together.

Soil Erosion.—A very grave evil to both agriculture and animal husbandry which the Agricultural Department has to combat in Basutoland is the erosion of the soil. Many thousands of tons of the richest soil of Basutoland are estimated to be washed away annually by the torrential summer rains, and the steady yearly increase in erosion in the lowlands and the mountain areas has caused the Department much concern. Every effort is made by the demonstrators by way of propaganda to check the increase of this evil, but it is feared that so long as land is held communally little success will attend their efforts. It is the old case of where it is every one's duty to prevent it it is no one's duty.

One of the chief factors in the increase of erosion is the steady migration of the natives from the lowlands to the mountain areas, and the consequent change in the nature of the hinterland from a purely pastoral to a semi-pastoral, semi-agricultural aspect, necessitating as it does the natives ploughing on the mountain slopes. The Paramount Chief has now appointed men in the various districts to keep an eye on this, and it is hoped that the more discriminate choice of sites for ploughing will greatly alleviate the denudation which exists to-day.

Animal Husbandry.

This department of production has, in the past, been the most important economically in the Territory, the principal factors being sheep and goat breeding for the production of wool and mohair, and cattle raising. Horses have also in the past played their part in the economic development of the Territory.

Sheep and Goats.—In order to avoid deterioration in the breeding of sheep as a wool-producing industry, legislation was issued prohibiting the importation of Persian and bastard rams, and from time to time a good stamp of Merino ram has been introduced by the Government for distribution amongst certain of the more progressive breeders The efforts of the Veterinary Department have, however, until some two or three years ago, been mainly concentrated on the eradication of scab. Over a period of 9 years, 202 dipping-tanks have been erected in all parts of Basutoland and, owing to the untiring efforts of the Principal Veterinary Officer and his staff, by the end of 1932 Basutoland was practically clear of scab. Owing to financial stress, drastic reductions in the staff of the Scab Division have been necessary, but it is hoped that the reduced staff will be able to maintain the present position. Seventeen outbreaks of scab occurred during the year, and all have been satisfactorily dealt with. During the year under review, 4,625,833 sheep and goats have been table-inspected and 15,761,943 sheep and goats have been field-inspected; these figures clearly reflect the energetic work done by the staff.

Owing to the unprecedented drought associated with the lowest prices on record for wool and mohair, the Basuto have been through a very trying time. The ruling price for wool in the autumn was from 1d. to 2d. per lb., and in the spring from 2d. to 3½d. per lb. This slight increase in the spring assisted the sheep-owner very considerably in his economic troubles. Unfortunately, the mohair market continued to slump and, except for the very best, mohair was unsaleable. Mohair that was worth 20d. per lb. three years ago has been sold this year from 2d. to 3d. per lb., and the outlook for the Angora goat breeder is dark indeed. All this has proved a big blow to the economic condition of the Territory, whose prosperity has always depended so much on wool and mohair.

Economic adversity has driven the Basuto to an abnormal consumption of his small stock as a source of food, and on taking a census of the sheep and goats in the Territory it was found that sheep and goats had been reduced to the extent of 737,756 and 152,533 respectively during the year. The estimated number of sheep and goats in the Territory at the end of 1932 was 1,991,478 and 724,602 respectively.

So long as the Basuto carry out this consumption with discretion it must react favourably on the overstocked condition of the pasturage. Extensive propaganda work has been carried out in this

direction by all the Veterinary staff, urging the natives to select for killing only those sheep which show signs of kemp and as far as possible to eat goats in preference to sheep. The only thing that will stop this consumption of small stock is a rise in the price of wool and hamels (wethers), combined with a return to normal production of grain crops.

Basutoland is considered to have the best natural sheep and goat pasturage and climate in South Africa, and there is no doubt that if the sheep-owner was only capable of bringing more intelligence and effort to bear on their production, some of the best fine Merino wool and mohair could be grown.

In order to ascertain whether something more could be done to improve the marketing of Basutoland wool, four bales were sent to the Empire Marketing Board, as it was thought that if better methods of clipping and handling were introduced the markets might be extended. A six months and twelve months clip, properly shorn and baled, was most favourably reported on by the Bradford Wool Research Institute, and there was every inducement on these reports to ascertain if it was not practicable to put these better methods into practice. The co-operation of the sheep-owners and traders over a small area of the Territory was enlisted, and every effort made to see that the sheep were properly classed and shorn and that the wool was carefully packed. Though valuable information was obtained, the experiment was not successful, mainly for the reasons that many of the sheep-owners were averse to moving their flocks to the different centres where supervision was being exercised over the shearing, and many of the traders did not allow sufficient discrimination in the prices offered for wool shorn under supervision and that shorn in the customary manner.

Cattle.—Pasturage deterioration resulting from overstocking associated with progressive years of drought and no effort on the part of the owner to breed from his best animals have undoubtedly lowered the standard of the cattle, and it is hoped that some constructive education on this matter will be put into force in the near future. Economically, practically the whole of the domestic and tribal laws of the Basuto are centred in cattle, and the wealth of the average native is indicated by the number of stock possessed. The question of improving the breed seldom occurs to him, inasmuch as in his view a beast is a beast and can be used for practically any domestic transaction such as payment of dowry and compensation or for fines imposed in the native courts. It is perhaps for this reason that he is generally apathetic to any advice on the subject.

It is unfortunate that no census of cattle has been taken since 1921, and it is doubtful whether they have appreciably increased since then. It is estimated that there are approximately 550,000 head in the Territory to-day.

Anthrax is practically the only epizootic of a serious nature among the cattle in Basutoland. During the year under review, 15 outbreaks were reported and were all successfully treated, 60,443 doses of Onderstepoort vaccine being issued for the purpose.

Horses.—Basuto ponies were at one time much sought after throughout the whole of South Africa, being of sturdy build, sure-footed, and hardy. During the South African War the Territory was largely depleted of its best types for remount purposes, and as a result of this there has been considerable deterioration of the breed. Many years ago a Government Stud was introduced in an attempt to improve the stamp and to check further deterioration. The original policy was to introduce Arab blood, but later this was changed and thorough-bred stallions were substituted. During the year under review, 104 mares were served. 62 mares proved pregnant from the previous season, and there is clear evidence that both "Vibration" and "Landing" are capable of siring excellent stock if given the opportunity.

A recent census shows a large decrease in the number of horses in the Territory. In 1921 the equine population was 152,325; in 1932 it was 91,573. This has been brought about to a large extent by the pasturage deterioration and the progressive years of drought, coupled with a steady annual mortality from hepatic cirrhosis due to the invasion of the Malutis by the plant *senecio latifolia*, which continues to be a real menace to the horses. Equine mange continues to give considerable trouble, and the adverse year of drought has rendered equines particularly susceptible to infection. During the year, 1,676 horses were dressed for mange; this duty is carried out by the dip supervisors stationed to the various tanks throughout the Territory.

Donkeys.—The only animal that has appreciably increased since 1921 is the donkey, largely due to the constant import from the Union, where they are of no value whatever. In 1921 the census indicated 5,383 donkeys; to-day it is estimated that there are 16,650 in the Territory. As the donkey is recognized as the worst type of pasturage despoiler, legislation to prohibit further importations is now under consideration.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

The following is a comparative statement of the imports and exports by general traders during the last three years :—

Imports.

Description.	1929		1930		1931		1932	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£		£		£
Merchandise	—	669,008	—	431,534	—	389,237	—	404,041
Live Stock :—	*No.*		*No.*		*No.*		*No.*	
Horses, Mules, etc.	251	501	12	34	12	70	16	67
Cattle	2,428	6,351	645	1,526	436	996	349	793
Sheep and Goats	149	207	312	163	344	144	838	275
Grain :—	*Bags.*		*Bags.*		*Bags.*		*Bags.*	
Wheat and Wheat Meal	5,415	8,837	5,179	6,760	4,917	7,529	3,894	6,386
Maize and Maize Meal	25,049	17,398	61,416	30,318	139,901	63,302	95,718	41,880
Kaffir Corn	4,315	3,6[illegible]0	10,828	7,090	1,374	1,015	1,983	1,291
Other Produce	—	1,084	—	524	—	440	—	378
Total Imports ...	—	£706,416	—	£477,949	—	£462,733	—	£455,111

Exports.

	No.	£	*No.*	£	*No.*	£	*No.*	£
Live Stock :—								
Horses, Mules, etc.	104	534	58	330	178	717	308	1,218
Cattle	1,496	6,678	3,617	14,121	8,337	27,616	5,668	15,947
Sheep and Goats	26	25	1,103	552	2,420	497	1,456	293
Grain :—	*Bags.*		*Bags.*		*Bags.*		*Bags.*	
Wheat and Wheat Meal	72,103	64,408	131,308	105,330	103,706	90,888	196,873	168,015
Maize and Maize Meal	87,404	42,144	6,061	2,169	295	168	1,908	765
Kaffir Corn	37,056	21,334	4,032	2,374	10,247	6,821	6,500	3,461
Barley	90	50	224	63	89	22	97	38
Beans and Peas	4,312	5,461	5,873	4,233	4,119	2,214	3,845	1,805
Wool and Mohair :—	*lb.*		*lb.*		*lb.*		*lb.*	
Wool	12,937,198	436,083	9,729,169	156,601	9,325,140	98,304	11,832,391	105,435
Mohair	1,961,746	94,352	942,725	21,837	1,241,743	21,442	1,033,863	10,136
Skins and Hides :—								
Skins	365,039	8,327	359,767	3,747	119,619	679	43,778	203
Hides	445,286	15,126	371,620	6,044	186,015	2,013	102,730	770
Miscellaneous	—	272	—	225	—	45	—	192
Total Exports ...	—	£694,794	—	£317,626	—	£251,427	—	£308,278

All exports are made to the Union of South Africa, and imports are as a general rule made through the same channel. The past few years have been chiefly characterized by the low prices obtaining for wool and mohair, the staple products of the Territory, on the value of which the main purchasing power of the native depends. With the fall in purchasing power, there is little prospect at present of further development of trade with Great Britain. The principal articles of United Kingdom manufacture for which there exist definite possibilities of further development in trade are blankets, native truck, and agricultural implements (excluding steam or motor driven machinery). The blanket factory started some years ago in Harrismith in the Orange Free State takes an increasingly large portion of the blanket trade which was formerly given to manufacturers in the United Kingdom.

It is unfortunate that British motor-cars have been unable to compete successfully with United States makes in this Territory; and it is interesting to note that out of a total of 371 private cars and taxis registered in Basutoland during 1932, 354 were of American and 13 of British make. The British commercial vehicle is slightly more popular, however, and from a total of 90 registered during the year, ten were of British make, the balance being American.

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

There are no factories or industrial undertakings in the Territory, and there is only one mile of railway, which is owned and operated by the South African Railway Administration.

Salaries and wages earned by Europeans vary from £200 to £850 per annum in the case of Government servants and from £120 to £500 per annum in the case of employees of trading concerns. These figures are in respect of normal times and it is probable that during 1932 they would have been generally reduced by 10 per cent.

Native wages vary from £24 to £204 per annum in the case of Government employees; and from £15 to £48 per annum in the case of store-boys, etc., employed by traders.

The average cost of living for single natives is estimated at £1 *per mensem*, and for married natives £3 *per mensem*. The cost of living of Europeans varies considerably and is in a great measure dependent on the social or official position of the person concerned.

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education in Basutoland is mainly in the hands of the three Missions, the Paris Evangelical Mission Society, the Roman Catholic Mission, and the English Church Mission, who receive grants-in-aid from the Government. These Mission schools are scattered over the country fairly equally in proportion to the density of the population, and it is probable that there are very few children who are not within reach of a school.

The chief aim of educational policy in Basutoland is to study the interests of the vast majority of children who only have a short school life, more or less irregular, for three or four years. To this end the education in the lower classes is almost entirely in the vernacular so that the child becomes literate in his own language and is not taken out of his environment. The country unfortunately is not well suited to the teaching of indigenous arts and crafts owing to the lack of available material, but wherever possible sewing is encouraged amongst the girls and gardening or other manual work amongst the boys.

There are 542 aided elementary schools, taught mainly through the vernacular, although English is started in the upper classes. Primary intermediate instruction is given in 39 schools, of which three are Government schools, managed by committees, the rest being Mission schools. Finally there are ten institutions which give specialized training, e.g., academic, normal, industrial, or agricultural. Apart from the three intermediate schools, the only other Government school is the Lerotholi Technical School at Maseru which is under its own Director.

The total roll of all schools for the year 1932 was 59,103 pupils, with an average attendance during the year of 44,359 pupils. The estimated expenditure from the Native Education Fund for the year 1932–33 is £45,310.

In addition to the above-mentioned schools there are 251 schools registered by the three Missions, but not drawing grants, with a roll of 8,468 pupils. The majority of these belong to the Roman Catholic Mission, and when the financial position improves it is hoped that these schools will receive Government aid.

No fees are charged in elementary or intermediate schools nor is attendance compulsory. Home duties and agricultural and pastoral work interfere with the regularity of the work and school attendances, but on the whole Basuto children show wonderful keenness in attending school. A written examination for Standard VI is open to pupils from all parts of the country Approximately six bursaries are awarded each year, so that a child of exceptional ability can continue his education at one of the institutions. University education is provided at the South African Native College at Fort Hare in the Union of South Africa, to which the Administration contributes £300 per annum, besides providing an annual bursary

for a promising Mosuto student. Thus it is possible for even the poorest child to proceed from his village school to the South African Native College.

Although the missions are chiefly concerned with mission and educational work there is no doubt that indirectly they do a great deal to promote public welfare. Each mission station is undoubtedly a centre of civilization with its various branches radiating around it, so that there are very few parts of the Territory which do not feel their influence.

Recreation is encouraged in every school, but owing to the scattered nature of the population and the domestic work required of the children it is difficult to arrange regular competitions. At certain camps and missions in the Lowlands, however, sports meetings have been held and have aroused much enthusiasm. In all the camps the older inhabitants have formed sports clubs, tennis, cricket, and football being the popular games.

Pathfinder and Wayfarer bodies have been started in several centres with, as far as it is possible to say in so short a time, every prospect of success.

At most mission centres annual singing competitions are held and are very popular with students, teachers, and the general public alike.

A detailed Annual Report on Native Education is published separately.

European Education.—There are nine small schools in the Territory, managed by local committees and supported by the Government, which provide elementary education for the children in the camps. For education beyond the elementary stage, children are sent to schools in the Union. The Government provides annually one bursary (for children under thirteen years of age) of £25 for two years; and for some time past now, through the generosity of Frasers' Ltd., a second bursary of £50 per annum for two years (also for children under thirteen years) has been instituted.

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Railways.

The Territory is linked with the Union of South Africa railway system by a short branch line—one mile of which is in Basutoland—from Maseru to Marseilles on the Bloemfontein-Natal main line. This South African railway system, however, follows closely the boundaries of the Territory and goods are transported by road to the nearest railway station across the border.

Roads and Bridle Paths.

The greater part of Basutoland is exceptionally mountainous and in this area all transport is effected with the use of pack animals. The Government undertakes repairs to a few of the main bridle paths.

On the western side of Basutoland where there is an agricultural strip of country stretching from north to south, a fairly good road system has been developed. The main roads traverse the whole distance of this strip with branches leading west to the principal points of exit. In nearly all cases the roads are gravelled and allow for motor or ox-waggon traffic in all weather. There are, however, a number of unbridged rivers and spruits which during flood periods often delay travelling for some hours.

During 1932 regravelling and reshaping of the roads has been carried out systematically to the extent of the funds available. Practically no construction work has been undertaken, but more than 100 culverts have been erected and much work has been done on improvement to road drainage.

From the main roads a number of feeder roads lead towards the interior. By-roads to trading stations, missions, etc., connect with these feeder roads, traversing still further into the interior, but although several roads now cross the first range of mountains none has yet penetrated to the second range. Feeder roads are maintained by the Government, and although a slight improvement in them can be recorded, they are still of a disappointingly low standard. During the year under review a few additional culverts have been constructed on them, and when funds are available to extend this practice they should gradually improve.

The by-roads are in many instances unsuitable for any type of traffic except ox-wagons. They are maintained by traders and others to whose stations they lead, assisted by annual Government grants on the £ for £ principle.

On the eastern side of Basutoland in the Qacha's Nek district a short system of roads similar to that described above exists, and the standard reached is more or less the same as that obtaining on the western side of the Territory.

The road policy of the Government has been to build up and gradually improve the existing roads, and all expenditure goes towards maintenance and betterment and does not provide for the carrying out of a constructional programme. During the year, however, a survey was carried out in the Quthing and Qacha's Nek districts for the construction of a road connecting Mt. Moorosi, the most southern point on the western system of roads, to Sekake's, the most western point on the eastern road system. The ground traversed was exceptionally mountainous. The road, if built, would be 59 miles in length and would pass through good agricul-

tural country. It would also provide a link between the Government stations at Quthing and Qacha's Nek. No immediate steps are being taken to carry out this construction, the estimated cost of which is £25,000.

Unfortunately, it has been found necessary to reduce further the funds for road work during the year and this has meant that the condition of the roads has slightly deteriorated. Light maintenance road graders have been tried with success and their extended use during 1932 has off-set in some degree this reduction in the Road vote.

The funds allocated during the last three years for the maintenance of roads, bridges, ponts, etc., of which 98 per cent. is used for roads, are given below :—

1930 ... £21,000 1931 ... £17,000 1932 ... £13,500

The following is a classification of the class and mileage of roads in the Territory :—

Concrete, asphaltic bituminous surface, nil.
Water-bound macadam surface tarred, nil.
Gravel, 320 miles main road and 62 miles feeder road.
Earth, 40 miles main road, and 70 miles feeder road.

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks within the Territory. The Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, has a branch at Maseru, as also has the Bloemfontein Board of Executors and Trust Company, Limited. The latter Company was placed under judicial management in July, 1932, in order to protect the investors and depositors.

Changes in connexion with currency in Basutoland were effected during the year by Royal Proclamation of 10th June, 1932, and by High Commissioner's Proclamations Nos. 44, 53, and 57 of 1932 and No. 2 of 1933. Proclamation No. 44 of 1932 regulated the introduction of silver coin (other than that of the Union of South Africa) into the Territory, and on 18th November United Kingdom silver coin was withdrawn from circulation and ceased to be legal tender with effect from 15th January, 1933. A penalty was imposed by Proclamation No. 57 of 1932 for making monetary payments to natives except in the legal currency of the Territory.

The issue by the Standard Bank of gold coin was suspended as from 28th December, 1932. Up to this date, natives working on the Witwatersrand mines in the Union were paid out in gold, and a certain amount of this was brought back to Basutoland and deposited at the Bank at the rate of from £500 to £750 per month, a like amount probably passing through each of the Assistant Commissioner's offices in the Territory. During the year, the Maseru

Branch of the Standard Bank exported £6,000 gold, £5,150 silver and £30 copper. It is estimated that not more than from £17,000 to £22,000 in South African Reserve Bank notes and £5,000 in coin is at present in circulation in the Territory.

The weights and measures in common use in the Territory are the British Imperial.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Owing to the continued financial stringency the activities of the Public Works Department were again curtailed during 1932.

The main work done by the Department during the year was the maintenance of Government buildings and water schemes throughout the Territory. These have all been kept in good repair.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE AND POLICE.

Justice.

The laws in force in Basutoland are the same as were in force in the Cape of Good Hope up to 18th March, 1884, except where repealed or altered by Proclamation of the High Commissioner, who is empowered to make by Proclamation such laws as may be necessary for the peace, order, and good government of the Territory.

The Basutoland Courts of Law consist of :—

(*a*) *The Resident Commissioner's Court*, which constitutes the supreme Court of Basutoland, and from which an appeal lies to the Privy Council. Under Proclamation No. 10 of 1928, as amended, the constitution of the Resident Commissioner's Court was altered, and provision made for the appointment of a judicial officer. The Court is now constituted by the Resident Commissioner or, when deputed by him thereto, the Deputy Resident Commissioner or the Judicial Commissioner sitting alone or together ; and there may be associated with the Court not more than two officers of the Administration, appointed by the Resident Commissioner for the purpose by notice in the *Gazette*. The Resident Commissioner when present and, in his absence, the Judicial Commissioner is President of the Court, and the judgment of the Court is the judgment pronounced or approved by the President.

The power conferred on the Resident Commissioner to review and correct the proceedings of Courts or officers may be exercised also by the Judicial Commissioner, and any decision recorded or action taken by the Judicial Commissioner in the course of such review or correction shall be of the same force and effect as if it had been recorded or taken by the Resident Commissioner.

(*b*) *Courts of Assistant Commissioners*, who are empowered to impose sentences not exceeding two years' imprisonment with hard labour or fines not exceeding £50, with jurisdiction in civil cases up to £500. These Courts have no jurisdiction, however, to try summarily any person charged with treason, murder, attempt to murder, culpable homicide, rape, attempt to commit rape, or sedition. In these cases and other serious crimes preparatory examinations are held.

These Courts are situated in each of the seven districts and in the sub-district of Butha Buthe. Police officers have been given minor jurisdiction in the Courts of Assistant Commissioners to try minor offences, with power to impose sentences not exceeding 6 months' imprisonment with hard labour and fines not exceeding £10. Detached courts are held in the sub-districts of Peka and Mokhotlong presided over by Police officers exercising minor jurisdiction.

(*c*) *Chiefs' Courts.*—Under Proclamation No. 2B of 1884 the Paramount Chief and other native chiefs of Basutoland were authorized to continue to exercise jurisdiction according to native law and custom in civil and criminal cases within such limits as may be defined by any rules established by the authority of the Resident Commissioner, subject to a proviso that no suit, action, or proceeding whatsoever to which any European shall be a party, either as plaintiff or complainant, or as defendant, shall be adjudicated upon by any such chief, save by the consent of all parties concerned. An appeal lies from the decision of any chief to the Court of the Assistant Commissioner of the District within which such chief exercises jurisdiction.

The following table shows the number of convictions for various crimes and offences during the last five years :—

Nature of Crime.	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*
In Magisterial Courts—					
Offences against the person ...	438	213	219	190	351
Offences against property	253	221	282	299	373
Offences against liquor laws ...	42	57	47	41	20
Other crimes	1,429	1,313	1,968	2,406	2,729
In Resident Commissioner's Court.					
Murder	1	6	10	11	10
Culpable homicide	20	30	23	14	62
Attempted murder	4	5	—	3	5
Rape	2	5	2	9	6
Other offences against the person ...	2	1	6	9	1
Offences against property with violence to the person.	4	33	52	50	214
Other offences against property ...	3	14	31	17	33
Other crimes	—	—	—	1	1

Police.

Constitution and Command.—The Basutoland Mounted Police is maintained under Proclamation No. 12 of 1921. The Force is under the control of the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland, who is also the Commandant, with a Staff Officer who is resident in Maseru.

It is a matter for regret that the continued financial stringency has not permitted the re-opening of the Training Depot which was closed down in 1931. It is hoped, however, that when conditions improve, it will be reopened even for a period to allow for refresher courses, in order that the efficiency of the Force may not be permanently impaired.

Finger-print work is carried out by a Warrant Officer attached to the depot. This branch continues to perform valuable service in supplying the Courts with the previous criminal history of accused persons whose finger-prints are sent in for identification. During the year under review 1,233 finger-prints were received and recorded.

Establishment.—The establishment of the Force on 31st December, 1932, was as follows :—

Europeans—		*Native Police*—	
Staff Officer	1	Sergeant-Major ...	1
Inspectors	5	Sergeants	14
Sub-Inspectors ...	6	Corporals	15
Warrant Officer ...	1	Privates	264
		Saddlers	4
Total	13	Total	298

During the year, the native personnel was again reduced by 25 to make provision for the establishment number of 264 Privates. To effect this, existing and subsequent vacancies were not filled.

Distribution and Strength.—Mounted detachments of the Force are stationed in Maseru and in the various districts of the Territory, under the command of European officers of the establishment who are responsible for the general police routine being carried out within their districts and for the efficiency of their respective

detachments. The following table shows the distribution of the strength as at 31st December, 1932 :—

Station.	*Officers.*	*Warrant Officers.*	*Non-Commissioned Officers.*	*Men.*	*Remarks.*
Butha Buthe ...	—	—	3	25	—
Leribe	1	—	4	21	—
Peka	1	—	1	7	—
Teyateyaneng ...	1	—	2	19	—
Maseru	3(*a*)	1(*b*)	3	38	(*a*) 2 seconded to Secretariat temporarily.
Depot	1(*c*)	—	2(*b*)	1	—
Mafeteng	1	—	4	25	(*b*) Seconded to Maseru Detachment while Depot closed.
Mohales Hoek ...	1	—	2	27	
Quthing	1	—	3	36	
Qacha's Nek ...	1	—	4	45	
Mokhotlong ...	1	—	2	18	(*c*) Staff Officer.
Totals ...	12	1	30	262	

The conduct and health of the Police have been uniformly good throughout the year. There were six dismissals during the year, five being for unsuitability, and only two deaths.

Crime.—During the year, 695 deportees were accepted from the Union after their claims to Basutoland birth had been established. This is an increase of 260 persons compared with last year, and in most cases their absence from the Territory had been upwards of twenty years and their records were bad. This influx of criminals into the Territory has already had a marked effect on the increase in crimes of storebreaking and theft.

The number of cases reported to the Police for investigation during the year amounted to 4,481, of which 3,291 were brought before the Magisterial Courts, 1,186 were not proceeded with for want of evidence or handed over to the Native Courts, and four were outstanding at 31st December, 1932. There was an increase of 329 cases brought before Magisterial Courts. As a result of these investigations, 4,271 persons were proceeded against, 154 of this number being females ; 4,059 persons were arrested and 212 summoned to attend the Courts. The following table gives comparative statistics for the past two years of the persons dealt with in summary courts :—

	1931.	*1932.*
Convicted Summarily	2,936	3,473
Committed for trial	203	367
Discharged—		
For want of prosecution	10	83
On the merits of the case	519	348
Total persons proceeded against ...	3,668	4,271

There was an increase in convictions of persons for homicide crimes of 94 in 1932 as compared with 1931. This, of course, includes convictions in the Superior as well as Magisterial Courts.

Patrols, etc.—During 1932, 10,259 patrols were sent out and covered approximately 240,957 miles. Whilst the distance traversed is not so great as in 1931, there is a big increase in the number of patrols.

Apart from the ordinary Police routine, members of the force were called upon to perform extraneous duties in assisting in the collection of hut tax and of wool export duty, in providing prison guards, clerical assistance in various district offices, and services in the Medical and Veterinary Departments.

Prisons.

There are gaols at the Headquarter Camp of each of the seven districts into which the Territory is divided and in the sub-districts of Butha Buthe, Mokhotlong, and Peka.

Buildings.—All gaol buildings are of stone with iron roofs and cement floors: the inmates, however, are suppliedd with bed-boards on which to sleep. The majority of cells are built to contain on the average 8 to 10 prisoners, but there are usually one or two smaller ones for violent or dangerous inmates, or for occasional European convicts. Attached to each prison is an exercise yard and cement baths with water laid on. The cook-house is in the yard, and a daily scale of ration as laid down by statute is provided. As no special accommodation exists in the district gaols for female or European prisoners, they are invariably transferred to Maseru to serve sentence, etc.

Health.—The health of the prisoners during 1932 has, on the whole, been good, the daily average on the sick list being 13. Fifteen deaths and two executions were recorded during the year. All prisoners are medically examined on admission, and the Medical Officers make regular visits to the gaols, apart from the weekly inspection when they accompany the District Administrative Officer in charge. Prisoners reporting sick are taken to the Government Dispensary, and if necessary are admitted to hospital where they are put into the ordinary public wards and treated on similar lines to other patients.

Discipline.—During 1932 there have been more breaches of prison discipline, and more escapes of prisoners have been reported, than has previously been the case; but on the whole the conduct of the prisoners has been good. Until 1929 the large majority of convicts were stock thieves, and persons committed for public violence in connexion with land disputes, with, of course, a large percentage of tax defaulters and persons convicted for offences against the other revenue laws. For the most part they were not the habitual criminal type, and gaol discipline was therefore more or less easy to maintain. Unfortunately during the past three years there has

been an influx of the more criminal type owing to the deportations of bad characters from the Union, and this policy has already made itself felt in the gaols throughout the Territory to the detriment of discipline.

Labour.—During the year under review the policy commenced in 1931 of utilizing convicts to a greater extent on road construction and maintenance in the vicinity of the various camps has been maintained. But, as a general rule, where possible they are trained to become useful members of society on release, by instruction in such trades as masonry, carpentry, building, and other kinds of manual labour.

Sentences.—The majority of offenders are given the option of a fine or imprisonment with hard labour, but for the more serious offences sentences of imprisonment only are imposed. Provision has been made under Proclamation No. 55 of 1921 for the punishment of offenders in certain cases under which the Court may in its discretion :—

(*a*) postpone for a period not exceeding six months the passing of sentence, and release the offender on one or more conditions ; or

(*b*) pass sentence but order the operation of the sentence to be suspended for a period not exceeding three years on such conditions as the Court may specify in the order ; or

(*c*) pass sentence of a fine or, in default of payment, imprisonment, but suspend the issue of a warrant for committing the offender to a gaol in default of payment until the expiry of such period not exceeding twelve months as the Court may fix for payment, in instalments or otherwise, of the amount of the fine or until default has been made.

Suspended sentences are invariably awarded in cases of default of payment of tax and similar offences against the revenue laws.

Good conduct remission up to one-fourth of the sentence is allowed on all sentences of imprisonment for six months or more.

Statistics.—During the year under review 4,334 persons passed through the various gaols in the Territory, and of these 2,598 were committed to penal imprisonment. The corresponding figures for 1931 were 4,025 and 2,552 respectively.

Juvenile Offenders.—It has been the practice for several years to transfer all juvenile prisoners of from 15 to 20 years of age, whose sentences are over three months, to serve their sentences at the Peka Gaol in order to prevent contact as far as possible with adult offenders. At Peka these juveniles are under the close supervision of the officer-in-charge, and they are taught stone-cutting, masonry work, road-making, repairs to buildings, and gardening. The gaol

is visited weekly by the Medical Officer from Teyateyaneng. Parents of these youths are allowed to visit them on Sundays, and religious services are held fortnightly by a native minister. The average daily number in this gaol during 1932 was 33, of which 16·5 were juveniles. Of the juveniles, the average daily on the sick list was 0·52.

CHAPTER XIV.

LEGISLATION.

The following legislation was issued during 1932 by proclamation in the *Gazette* :—

(1) No. 2.—Customs (Primage) Proclamation, 1932. (Amending Proclamation No. 19 of 1925.)

(2) No. 6.—Basutoland Pensions Further Amendment Proclamation, 1932.

(3) No. 19.—Basutoland Trading (Amendment) Proclamation, 1932, (amending No. 28 of 1928).

(4) No. 20.—Basutoland Reformatories and Prisoners and Juvenile Offenders Removal Proclamation, 1920 (Amendment) Proclamation, 1932.

(5) No. 25.—Customs Tariff (Amendment) Proclamation, 1932.

(6) No. 37.—Providing for the payment of contributions from Basutoland Funds towards the pension and gratuity of C. L. O'Brien Dutton.

(7) No. 42.—Basutoland Appropriation (1932–33) Proclamation, 1932.

(8) No. 44.—Silver Coin Currency Control (Basutoland) Proclamation, 1932. Regulating the introduction of certain silver coin to Basutoland.

(9) No. 47.—Amending further the Basutoland Stock and Produce Theft Repression Proclamation, 1921.

(10) No. 48.—Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1932.

(11) No. 53.—Basutoland Currency Proclamation, 1932.

(12) No. 57.—Basutoland Currency (Payments to Natives) Proclamation, 1932.

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure for the past five financial years :—

REVENUE.

Head.	*1927–28*	*1928–29*	*1929–30*	*1930–31*	*1931–32*
	£	£	£	£	£
Native Tax	137,744	141,719	136,237	125,665	116,783
Customs and Excise	92,201	96,072	95,564	77,810	80,842
Posts and Telegraphs	8,466	9,181	9,377	8,883	9,964
Licences	8,938	9,206	9,141	8,068	7,821
Fees of Court or Office	956	1,094	1,083	810	1,042
Judicial Fines	2,629	2,515	2,039	1,445	976
Income Tax	12,843	16,022	10,732	5,929	3,957
Fees for Services Rendered ...	1,159	1,296	1,387	1,105	1,165
Interest	2,275	3,670	5,101	4,033	3,997
Wool Export Duty	17,918	33,976	32,187	25,436	19,265
Miscellaneous	7,913	10,033	8,943	8,654	8,040
Education Levy	13,357	15,103	14,885	13,963	13,017
Totals	£306,399	£339,892	£326,676	£281,801	£266,869

EXPENDITURE.

Head.	*1927–28*	*1928–29*	*1929–30*	*1930–31*	*1931–32*
	£	£	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner	12,532	13,099	12,724	12,783	12,789
District Administration ...	13,619	14,118	14,926	15,333	15,121
Police	39,160	38,357	38,678	37,600	35,455
Administration of Justice ...	12,379	11,764	12,087	13,306	13,255
Posts and Telegraphs	11,118	11,568	13,494	12,004	11,027
Public Works Department ...	5,147	5,239	5,276	5,322	5,761
Public Works Extraordinary ...	3,671	2,747	3,597	5,168	345
Public Works Recurrent ...	23,044	29,502	30,521	29,774	20,516
Medical	26,121	25,676	26,832	28,202	25,394
Education	54,871	58,596	57,105	53,235	49,734
Lerotholi Technical School ...	6,566	6,658	6,674	5,772	5,541
Agriculture—					
Veterinary	30,874	39,178	37,104	39,140	23,630
Agricultural			5,911	6,849	5,751
Allowances to Chiefs	12,002	12,562	14,260	13,754	11,628
National Council	1,641	1,762	1,777	1,634	1,613
Leper Settlement	19,558	19,238	20,077	21,501	20,317
Pensions	11,797	11,828	14,291	12,726	11,242
Miscellaneous	6,970	7,998	8,468	7,225	6,758
Capital Expenditure	3,804	6,687	10,060	1,090	4,312
Totals	£294,874	£316,577	£333,862	£322,418	£280,189

Debt.

The Basutoland Administration has no Public Debt, but its liabilities in connexion with the "Guardian's Fund" and the "Native Education Fund" were at 31st March, 1932, £25,171 and £8,127 respectively.

Assets.

The assets at 31st March, 1932, were as follows :—

	£
Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited.—	
"Current Account"	23,067
"Deposit Account"	10,000
Crown Agents for Colonies—	
"Current Account"	188
"Deposit Account"	17,000
Balances with Sub-Accountants	14,674
On loan to Swaziland Administration	37,000
Advances recoverable	6,490
Stores Suspense	9,610
Total	£118,029

Description of Main Heads of Taxation.

Native Tax.—The collection under this head for the year ended 31st March, 1932, was £116,785. Fuller details as regards the method of collection, etc., are given on page 31.

Customs and Excise.—Under the Customs Agreement entered into with the Union of South Africa in 1910, the Basutoland Administration receives annually 0·88575 per cent. of the total Customs revenue of the Union, less payments to Northern and Southern Rhodesia and South West Africa. The amount received for the twelve months ended 31st March, 1932, was £79,186.

In addition to the above, a duty is levied on importations of Union manufactured spirits and beer into Basutoland, and the amount received in this connexion for the above period was £1,656, making the total Customs revenue for the Territory, £80,842. The rates of duty on spirits and beer are governed by Part III of the Schedule to Proclamation No. 64 of 1921.

Licences.—Trades and businesses are subject to annual licences in terms of the Schedule to Proclamation No. 28 of 1928, which consolidated and amended the laws relating to the carrying on of businesses in Basutoland. A duty at the rate of ¼ per cent. is charged upon the purchase consideration in the case of the transfer of a General Trader's Licence. Labour Agents' and Motor Vehicle Registration Licences are governed by Proclamations Nos. 27 of

1907, as amended, and 7 of 1926, respectively. Assistant Commissioners are responsible for the collection of all licence fees in their districts.

The following table gives the chief classes of licences and the amount collected in respect of each, for the past two years :—

	1931.	1932.
	£	£
General Traders	4,725	4,788
Hawkers	548	350
Labour Agents	292	247
Labour Runners	168	49
Commercial Travellers	543	433
Miscellaneous	644	697
Motor Registration	1,048	1,159
Motor Drivers	72	44
Transfer Fees	27	54
Totals	£8,067	£7,821

Income-Tax.—The collection of income-tax is governed by the Basutoland Income-Tax Proclamation No. 52 of 1920, as amended. The general provisions of the Principal Proclamation apply each year to the determination of the taxable amount on which the tax is to be levied and the collection of the amount payable in respect of that taxable amount, but the actual rates to be levied are fixed by Proclamation each year.

The taxes imposed for the year 1931 were : (i) Normal Tax, (ii) Super Tax ; and the rates were fixed as follows :—

(i) Normal Tax :—

(*a*) In the case of companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, two shillings and sixpence.

(*b*) In the case of persons other than companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, one shilling and as many two-thousandths of a penny as there are pounds in that amount, subject to a maximum rate of two shillings in every pound.

(ii) Super Tax :—

(*a*) When the amount subject to super tax does not exceed twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, one shilling and as many five-hundredths of one penny as there are pounds in that amount.

(*b*) When the amount subject to super tax exceeds twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, five shillings.

The amount collected for the income-tax year ended 30th June, 1931, was as follows :—

	£
Arrear Tax	100
Current Tax	3,857
Total	£3,957

The following table shows the sources from which taxable incomes were derived and the amount of tax paid from each source, and also compares the collection with the previous year.

Source.	1930–31	1931–32	+ *or* −
	£	£	£
General traders	2,464	650	− 1,814
Civil servants	1,216	1,287	+ 71
Employed persons	262	221	− 41
Others	1,015	934	− 81
Non-residents	972	865	− 107
Totals	£5,929	£3,957	−£1,972

The number of incomes for current tax and the total amounts of taxable incomes in the various categories were :—

Number.	*Category.*	*Taxable Income.*
	£	£
36	500 and under	14,244
32	501 to 750	19,991
30	751 to 1,000	25,490
25	1,001 to 2,000	30,048
5	2,001 and over	16,155
128		£105,928

Wool Export Duty.—The imposition and the collection of the duty on wool and mohair exported from the Territory are governed by the Wool and Mohair Export Duty Proclamation No. 14 of 1923,

as amended. This duty was originally imposed to help to defray the expenses of the costly campaign inaugurated to eradicate scab among sheep and goats which was at that time very rife throughout Basutoland.

The duty levied during the first half of the financial year ending 31st March, 1932, was at the rate of one halfpenny upon every pound of wool or mohair exported; but from 1st September, 1931, owing to the continued slump in the prices obtaining for wool and mohair, the duty was reduced to twopence for every twelve and a-half pounds exported. The total receipts for the year amounted to £19,265.

Education Levy.—In accordance with Proclamation No. 13 of 1927, every adult native male domiciled in Basutoland has to pay a levy of three shillings per annum, and the total amount collected each year is credited to a special fund known as the "Basutoland Native Education Fund," and is devoted solely to purposes of native education. For purposes of convenience this levy is collected in conjunction with the hut tax, and both are embodied in one receipt which is superscribed, "Hut Tax, £1 5s. 0d.; Education Levy, 3s."

Customs Tariff.

In accordance with the Customs Agreement entered into with the Union Government in 1910, Basutoland maintains a Customs tariff similar to that which exists in the Union of South Africa.

Excise and Stamp Duties.

Stamp duties are imposed in terms of Proclamation No. 16 of 1907 as amended, and are mostly chargeable in respect of the following instruments, acts, etc., arbitrations and awards, bills of exchange, bonds, courts of law, acts and deeds of donations, leases, transfers, and in respect of duties performed by the Master of Court.

Hut Tax.

Hut tax is imposed by the Basutoland Native Tax Proclamation, 1911, (as amended). Every adult male native domiciled in Basutoland is liable for the payment of a tax at the rate of twenty-five shillings per annum and in addition, if such native has more than one wife according to native custom, a further sum of twenty-five shillings for every such additional wife. No native, however, is liable to pay in respect of himself and his wives more than three pounds fifteen shillings in any one year. A native inhabitant of the Union who resides in Basutoland for twelve months becomes liable to taxation in respect of that year, unless he is able to prove payment of tax in the country of his permanent residence.

Assistant Commissioners are empowered to exempt from the payment of tax, for any one year or more, any native who is incapacitated by extreme old age, personal infirmity, or other causes from earning a livelihood.

The Assistant Commissioners are in charge of the collection of tax in their districts, which duty they carry out through the chiefs and headmen who are nominally responsible to them for the collection in their respective wards. Paid native collectors operate in each district under the supervision of the Assistant Commissioners, and in conjunction with the chiefs to whose wards they are appointed. To encourage the chiefs to interest themselves in this very important part of their duties they are paid annual gratuities based on a percentage of the yearly collection in their respective wards. Facilities also exist, and are largely used both by individuals and by labour recruiting agencies, for the payment of tax at the Government offices situated in each of the camps and at the more important ports of exit. Members of the Basutoland Mounted Police are invariably employed towards the end of each financial year to patrol the districts, accompanied by chiefs' messengers, to give a stimulus to the collection and to bring in defaulters.

An officer of the Administration was stationed temporarily in Johannesburg during the year, with a staff of five native clerks, for the purpose of collecting arrear and current tax from Basutoland natives working on the gold mines along the Reef. Upwards of 30,000 Basuto are always employed on the mines, and at the time operations commenced many natives had been away from Basutoland for four or five years. The collection was a great success, and when once the initial difficulties had been overcome the natives appeared to be keen to pay. £17,300 was collected during the period 1st April to 31st July, 1932, at which date the collection was closed. A further collection was started on 1st January, 1933.

CHAPTER XVI.

LABOUR.

The gold mines play an increasingly large part in the economic position of the Territory, by employing annually large numbers of Basuto. Undoubtedly they have been a very great stand-by during the present depression as providing practically the only well-paid field for labour. It is estimated that there are upwards of 35,000 Basuto on the mines at present and that over one million pounds is annually paid out to Basutoland natives. Many of them remit money through the Native Deposit and Remittance Agency to their families in Basutoland, and a big majority of them defer a portion of their monthly wage in order that they may collect it on their return home.

During 1932 £37,814 was paid out in remittances and £50,165 in deferred pay.

The following table gives the number of passes issued during the year and indicates the purpose for which the natives left the Territory :—

A. Labour. Mines :—				
	Gold	25,642		
	Coal	47		
	Diamonds ...	62		
	Total Mines ...	25,751		
				25,751
	Agriculture ...	...	...	12,678
	Miscellaneous ...	...	...	19,628
	Total Labour ...	...	...	58,057
B. Visiting ...	... ...	...	...	38,010
	Total	...	...	96,067

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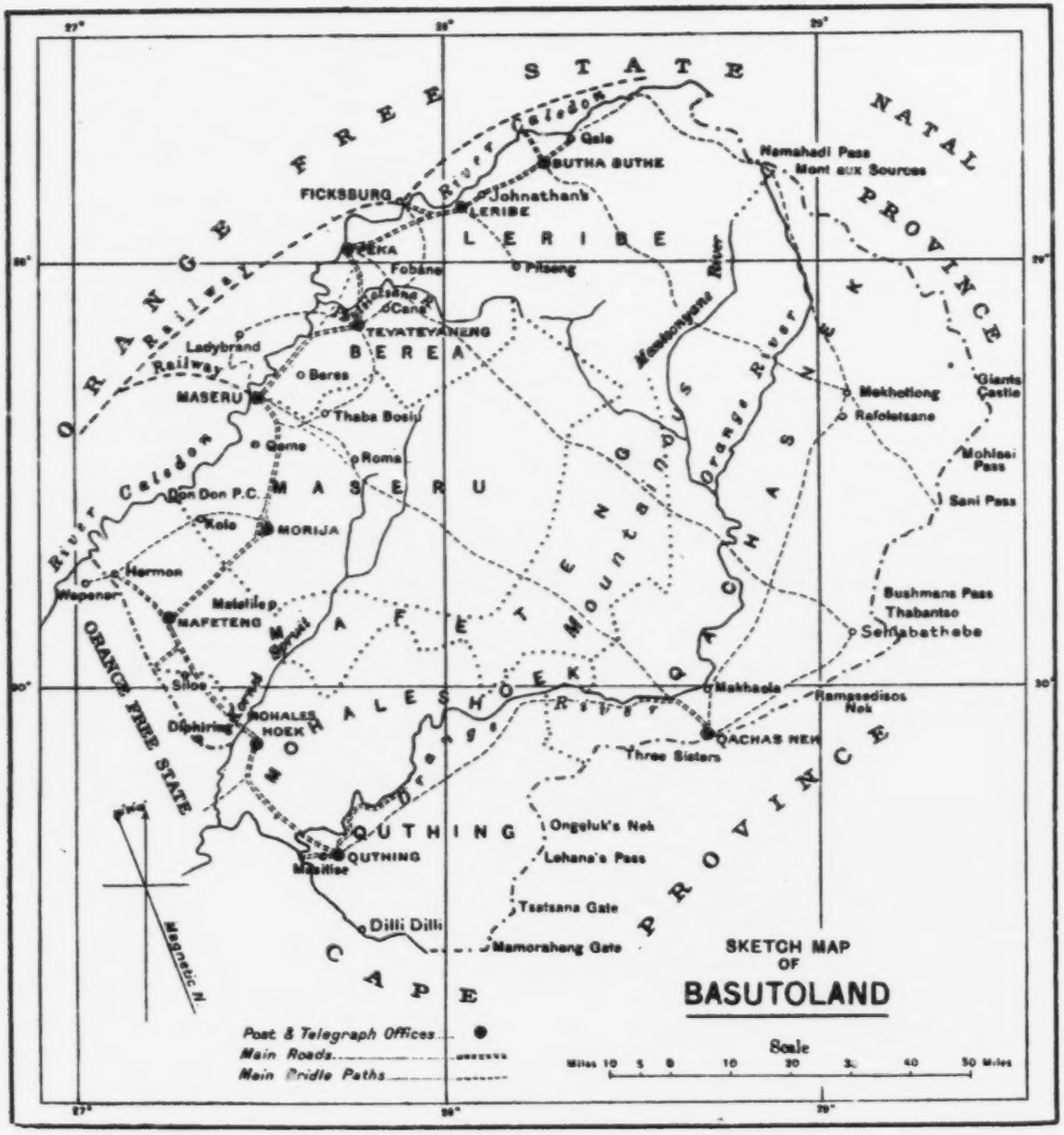
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Gale
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BASUTOLAND, 1933

(For Report for 1931 see No. 1583 (Price 1s. 3d.) and for Report for 1932 see No. 1628 (Price 1s. 6d.))

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Basutoland, which is a native territory in South Africa, is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, and on the south by the Cape Province. Its area is 11,716 square miles. It lies between 28°35′ and 30°40′ South latitude, and between 27° and 29°30′ East longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 ft. to 11,000 ft. above sea-level, and the climate is, on the whole, healthy. The Maluti Mountains, which occupy most of the Territory to the east, were in former years reserved entirely as cattle posts, but owing to the increase in population the Basuto have found it necessary to migrate there, build villages, and cultivate the land, so that to-day this more or less inaccessible area is gradually becoming as thickly populated as

the low-lying country to the west. The result of this invasion into the mountain area is the disappearance of all big game, such as eland and hartebeest, which used to abound some thirty years ago, and the gradual elimination of the smaller buck and all species of wild fowl.

The climate is good for Europeans and natives alike. The high altitude and pure atmosphere prove most invigorating. *Phthisis pulmonalis* is little known except among Europeans who have come to the country on account of this disease, and if they come in the early stages of the disease they improve at once. Persons suffering from malarial fever or its results are benefited greatly by a short residence in Basutoland.

The range of temperature is approximately from a maximum of 93° F. to a minimum of 11° F. The average annual rainfall is approximately 30 inches, the average for the last ten years at Mafeteng Inland Station being 28·44. The total recorded at this Station during 1932 was 23·16 inches, and during 1933, 24·07. This hardly gives any idea of the extreme drought conditions which have obtained throughout the Territory during the past two years, but the fact that between May and October of this year only ·80 of an inch was recorded, will serve to illustrate the gravity of the period through which the Territory has recently passed.

In 1818 the first Paramount Chief of Basutoland, Moshesh, gathered the various remnants of tribes which had become scattered about South Africa during the wars waged by Moselekatse, the King of the Matabele, and thus founded what has become the Basuto nation. The estimated native population is 575,000, while the Europeans, as taken in the last census in 1921, numbered 1,600

In 1852 war broke out between Moshesh and the British Government; the Basuto were defeated by Sir G. Cathcart at the battle of the Berea Mountain, and Moshesh sent in his submission and made peace. A series of wars then took place from 1856 onwards between the Basuto and the inhabitants of the Orange Free State, and it was not until 1868, when he was hard pressed by the Boers, that Moshesh appealed to the British Government for help and the recognition of his people as British subjects. This was carried into effect by a Proclamation dated the 12th March, 1868, and the event is now commemorated by observing this day as a public holiday, known as "Moshoeshoe's Day". In 1871, the Territory was annexed to the Cape Colony and after various disturbances, the Government of the Cape, in April, 1880, extended the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878 to Basutoland, which included a clause for the general disarmament of the Basuto. The Basuto, however, refused to accept the terms and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at by which the Act was repealed and certain fines inflicted on the tribe.

Although outwardly peace had been restored, there still remained several Chiefs who would in no way accept the terms, and it was eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to

hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This was effected by Order in Council on 2nd February, 1884, which was proclaimed and brought into force by Proclamation 75A of the 18th March, 1884.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Territory is now governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for South Africa, the latter possessing the legislative authority, which is exercised by Proclamation promulgated in the *Official Gazette*.

For fiscal and other purposes the country is divided into seven districts, each of which is under an Assistant Commissioner, namely, Maseru, Leribe, Berea (or Teyateyaneng, as it is sometimes called), Mafeteng, Mohales Hoek, Qutning, and Qacha's Nek. These districts are sub-divided into wards presided over by the hereditary chiefs and those allied to the Moshesh family, who are responsible to the Paramount Chief in all matters relative to native law and custom.

III.—POPULATION.

No census has been taken since 1921. The following figures indicate the racial distribution of the population at the last census :—

District.	*Europeans.*	*Bantu.*	*Coloured other than Bantu.*
Leribe	260	107,794	211
Berea	132	56,674	136
Maseru	612	99,378	266
Mafeteng	262	67,279	221
Mohales Hoek ...	159	60,568	281
Quthing	115	38,051	96
Qacha's Nek	63	66,193	30
Totals	1,603	495,937	1,241

Besides the population as enumerated above, 47,141 Basuto were stated to be absent at various labour centres outside the Territory when the census was taken.

The following is a comparative statement of the density of the population (other than Europeans), at the censuses of 1904, 1911 and 1921 :—

	1904.	*1911.*	*1921.*
No. of persons per square mile ...	33·78	38·97	48·30
No. of acres per head of population ...	18·94	16·42	13·25
No. of occupied huts per square mile...	8·42	10·86	16·99
No. of persons to each occupied hut ...	4·01	3·61	2·84

There is no compulsory registration of births, deaths, or marriages according to native custom. Marriages according to Christian rites numbered 846 during the year under review, as compared with 944 during 1932 and 643 during 1931.

Every native entering or leaving the Territory must be in possession of an official pass. (For further information on this see Chapter XVI.)

IV.—HEALTH.

The return of communicable diseases given hereunder, although showing an increase in number, does not call for alarm when one realizes the most unprecedented weather conditions that prevailed during 1933 :—

	1931	*1932*	*1933*
Influenza	550	1,485	676
Typhoid	247	258	265
Dysentery	161	135	90
Typhus	118	238	2,478
Whooping Cough ...	337	948	211
Measles	119	142	167
Smallpox	1	1	1
Scarlet Fever	2	3	16
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	261	390	318
Anthrax	1	3	4
	1,797	3,603	4,226

The cases of typhus jumped from 238 to 2,478, an increase of 2,240. This, no doubt, is due, to a certain extent, to the lack of means of cleanliness owing to the drought ; but, on the other hand, indifference and carelessness on the part of the native is really a greater factor. Every effort has been made by the Medical Department to assist the natives to fight this disease : Medical Officers have lectured the people as regards its cause and prevention, pamphlets in Sesuto have been printed and distributed, and the Government has offered to supply free naphthalene oil for inunction and soap for washing. It is regretted, however, that no very good results have followed.

At the dispensaries 62,853 people were attended, 40,373 being first and 22,480 subsequent attendances, this being 2,396 less than last year.

As regards in-patients, the total admissions were 2,690 and, bringing into account the 87 remaining in at the end of 1932,

the total cases treated were 2,777; 50 less than last year. There were 77 patients remaining in the hospitals at the end of 1933. Of the patients treated during 1933 the number who died was 281, which figure shows an increased mortality on that of 1932, when of 2,827 patients the mortality was 241. It should be borne in mind, however, that there were 86 deaths from typhus fever out of a total of 307 cases treated, whereas last year there were 34 deaths out of 85 cases. This would tend to prove that typhus, the disease with the highest mortality, has not been so virulent during 1933, in spite of the death rate being well over 25 per cent. of hospital treated cases. It is an indisputable fact that during the greater part of the year the natives were undernourished and hence could not, in many instances, put up the normal fight against disease.

The following table gives details of the hospital and dispensary work in each district during 1933 :—

District.	*In-Patients.*	*Out-Patients.*	*Subsequent Attendance.*	*Vaccinations.*	*Revenue.* £	*s.*	*d.*
Maseru	866	7,823	8,014	—	505	6	3
Leribe	586	6,263	3,632	—	450	17	9
Mafeteng	436	9,098	4,417	—	421	3	3
Mohales Hoek ...	342	3,967	1,464	—	197	15	9
Quthing	197	5,865	2,312	600	215	8	0
Qacha's Nek ...	207	3,065	1,199	—	109	11	9
Teyateyaneng ...	56	4,292	1,442	90	136	4	5
Total ...	2,690	40,373	22,480	690	£2,036	7	2

Leper Settlement.

The actual population on the 31st December, 1933, was 736, as compared with 714 on the 31st December, 1932, showing an increase of 22. There were 5 more admissions, 6 less re-admitted, 6 more deaths and 11 more discharged. The increase of population of 22, which is not satisfactory reading, is well explained by the Superintendent, who reasons that the increase of admissions is due to famine and hence the same applies to people in the Institution who might wish to get away but prefer to stay where they are fed and cared for, e.g., deserters, whose number has fallen from 51 to 26, a difference of 25.

It is satisfactory to note that the cases which are brought forward for discharge are mostly those who have not been at the Institution for more than six months to two years, proving that the Inspectors are becoming *au fait* with their work.

The following comparative table denotes the number of admissions, etc. :—

	Admitted.		*Re-admitted.*		*Died.*		*Deserted.*		*Discharged.*	
	1932.	1933.	1932.	1933.	1932.	1933.	1932.	1933.	1932.	1933.
Males	70	65	22	21	30	38	29	16	10	23
Females ...	63	73	17	12	40	38	22	10	26	24
Totals ...	133	138	39	33	70	76	51	26	36	47

A chapter on the health of the Territory would not be complete without reference to the famine which overtook many of the people during 1933, calling for relief by the Government. This has been included in a separate chapter at the conclusion of this Report.

A detailed Annual Report on Health is published separately.

V.—HOUSING.

Basutoland is a purely native Territory. There are no factory or industrial undertakings, and the problem of the proper accommodation of workers has not arisen.

The natives live in villages under tribal authority and their huts are, on the whole, healthy if primitive. These huts are invariably built of sods or stone, with a mud floor and a thatched roof; and from the figures taken at the 1921 census the average number of persons to each hut occupied was 2·84.

The small European population consists of civil servants, missionaries and traders, and is, as a rule, well housed in buildings of cut stone or brick.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

There are no fisheries; and no mining operations are carried out in Basutoland.

Production is dealt with under two heads, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry.

Agriculture.

No land in Basutoland is cultivated by Europeans with the exception of a few fields in the vicinity of mission stations, which are used for demonstration purposes; these are held under the same

land tenure system as those of the natives. Cultivation is, in the main, carried out by individual native agriculturists who are given lands by the Chiefs on which to grow food for themselves and their families. Until the crop is reaped the land is under the sole management of the individual, after which it falls back to the community for grazing. Generally three lands are given out in this way to every married man—one each for wheat, mealies and kaffir corn. It is estimated that approximately one-fifteenth of the country is under the plough.

The chief products of the Territory are maize, kaffir corn, and wheat. Peas, beans, barley, oats, pumpkins, potatoes, and other vegetable crops are also grown but not to any appreciable extent. Maize and kaffir corn form the staple diet of the natives, and consequently only a very small percentage of these commodities is exported.

Before commencing to deal with each of the crops grown separately, it would be as well to comment on the exceptional drought which overtook the Territory during 1933. It was one of the worst on record, the total rainfall for the year being 24·07 inches—4·07 below the average for the last ten years. At the Mafeteng meteorological station 10·51 inches had been registered up to the end of April; from May to October only ·90 inches were recorded; and in the last two months 12·66 inches of rain fell. As a result of this and of the previous year's drought there was a great shortage of food in many parts of the Territory and famine relief measures became necessary. This is dealt with in Chapter XVII of this report.

Maize.—It is estimated that some 200,000 acres of land were under cultivation for maize during 1933, a larger acreage than during the previous year. From this only approximately 334,000 bags of mealies were reaped, as against 450,000 bags in 1932. This was insufficient for the needs of the population, and 356,000 bags were imported from the Union and elsewhere. Many lands of mealies produced no crops and were cut for forage.

Owing to the shortage of maize in the Territory, it was thought that unless the Administration did something practically none would be planted for the 1934 crop, and with the object of ensuring a food supply in 1934 an issue of 30 lb. was made to all destitute natives who had the facilities for planting. A total of some 6,000 bags were issued to approximately 41,000 land owners at a cost to the Government of £5,400. The heavy rains which fell at the beginning of November were most opportune, and it is hoped that the majority of this seed went into the ground, though owing to the extreme hunger which was being experienced in many parts of the Territory at that time it is feared that much was eaten.

Kaffir Corn.—The same conditions applied to the kaffir corn crop, and out of approximately 81,000 acres under cultivation only 147,000 bags were reaped, as against 277,000 bags reaped from the same acreage in 1932. During the year 25,000 bags of kaffir corn were imported.

Wheat.—In the lowlands wheat is used for food only by the more advanced natives; those living in the higher altitudes consume a considerable quantity as the growing of other food crops is more or less impossible at an altitude of 7,000 feet and over. The climatic conditions of Basutoland are peculiarly favourable to the growth of a strong wheat and, although the majority of it is floor-threshed and is often very dirty, Basutoland wheat has always found a ready market owing to its excellent qualities for blending. This fact has been thoroughly borne out by a report on three samples which were sent to the Imperial Institute in London for examination during the year.

The crop for 1933 was the smallest that has been reaped for many years, which was due to droughty conditions. From an estimated area of approximately 90,000 acres sown, only 125,000 bags were reaped. The crop reaped in 1932 totalled roughly 346,000 bags out of approximately 123,000 acres under cultivation.

The introduction of 200 bags of Rooi Koreng mentioned in the 1932 report, was not as successful as it might have been owing to drought, while in some districts this wheat was found to be susceptible to rust. However, a few good crops were reaped and the seed returned was issued for replanting for the 1934 harvest. The seed bounty scheme in the Mokhotlong district was also a failure for the same reason, and very bad crops were reaped.

A seed wheat bounty for 1933 was approved by the High Commissioner for the lowlands, and roughly 10,000 bags were given out. The resulting crop was almost a complete failure owing to the unfavourable conditions prevailing at planting time, and the absence of winter and spring rains.

Peas and Beans.—These are, as a rule, grown with fair success by the Basuto. The former is one of the most productive crops in the higher altitudes, but the latter is only grown to any extent in the lowlands. Propaganda is being used to induce the natives to grow more leguminous crops, both from a food point of view and as a useful crop to be grown in rotation with cereals.

Other Crops.—Barley and oats are grown and are used chiefly for horse feed, although barley is being used far more for human consumption than heretofore. Pumpkins are grown on a fairly large scale in the gardens and are also planted among the mealies. Potatoes are grown on a small scale, the Basuto not yet having realized the value of this crop. Everything possible is being done to encourage the natives to start small vegetable gardens near their homes as a means of obtaining a change of diet; there are many situations where small irrigation schemes could be started. All the chief mission schools throughout the Territory realize the importance of this form of agriculture, and many schools now have well-kept vegetable gardens worked by the students.

General.—During the year under review 648,331 bags of mixed grain were estimated to have been grown in Basutoland; 8,675 bags of wheat, 356,158 bags of maize and 25,018 bags of kaffir corn had

to be imported to cover local shortages due to one of the worst and most disastrous harvests on record. In a normal year the Territory produces practically enough food for its own consumption, and when it is taken into consideration that the bulk of the wheat is exported, it may be said that it does so entirely.

Forestry.—There are no indigenous trees of any commercial value which grow in Basutoland, the only two varieties which attain to any size being the indigenous willow and the cheche which are chiefly used for fuel. There is no natural forest. Some sheltered kloofs and mountain slopes are still covered with the natural small bush, but this has been sadly depleted by overstocking and by cutting for fuel in the past. White poplar and weeping willow have been planted by the Basuto to a considerable extent and are most useful in the prevention of soil erosion. They are also used as fuel and as timber for hut-building.

The Basuto are encouraged to plant trees, and nurseries are maintained in all the Government camps; but, on the whole, the nation is very apathetic in this respect, chiefly because of the insecurity of land tenure in the Territory.

The opinion expressed last year with regard to the best drought-resisting trees still holds good, for the *pinus insignus* and *pinaster* have continued to die in large quantities, whilst the *cedrus deodara*, *pinus halipensis* and *eucalyptus sideroxylon* are holding their own. It is hoped that the mortality among the young trees will now cease, as most of those of the above type which had reached maturity are now dead, and the heavy rainfall which has thoroughly wetted the sub-soil should give the remaining trees a fresh lease of life.

Demonstration.—An attempt is being made to improve native agriculture by the employment of native agricultural demonstrators who have been thoroughly trained for the work and have taken a diploma in Agriculture at one of the native Agricultural Schools in the Union. At present there are twenty-four such demonstrators stationed in Basutoland and distributed among the districts. Facilities for obtaining a working knowledge of agriculture to fit the student for farming his home lands in an up-to-date manner are given at Roma, Lerotholi Technical Institute, Morija and Leloaleng.

The general work of all demonstrators is to give lectures on subjects such as the selection of seed, planting, and proper cultivation of the various crops grown throughout their districts shortly before these operations take place. They also undertake the working of various native lands to show a contrast between them and ordinary lands worked by the natives themselves. In a good season a demonstrator works from 20 to 30 lands and may obtain an increased output of from 50 to 100 per cent.

Agricultural Societies.—Every endeavour is still being made to foster and encourage the growth and formation of agricultural societies and associations throughout the Territory, with an appreciable amount of success, as a few fairly strong societies are now

in operation in different parts of Basutoland, especially at Leribe, Mohales Hoek and Masite. It is, however, unfortunate that it is so difficult to get the Basuto to co-operate : constant help and talks are necessary to keep them together.

Soil Erosion.—A very grave evil to both agriculture and animal husbandry which the Agricultural Department of Basutoland has to combat is the erosion of the soil. Many thousands of tons of the richest soil of Basutoland are estimated to be washed away annually by the torrential summer rains, and the steady yearly increase in erosion in the lowlands and the mountain areas has caused the Department much concern. Every effort is made by the demonstrators in the way of propaganda to check the increase of this evil, but it is feared that so long as land is held communally little success will attend their efforts. It is the old case of where it is everyone's duty to prevent it, it is no one's duty.

One of the chief factors in the increase of erosion is the steady migration of the natives from the lowlands to the mountain areas, and the consequent change in the nature of the hinterland from a purely pastoral to a semi-pastoral, semi-agricultural aspect, necessitating as it does the natives' ploughing on the mountain slopes. The Paramount Chief has now appointed men in the various districts to keep an eye on this, and it is hoped that the more discriminating choice of sites for ploughing will greatly alleviate the denudation which exists to-day.

As a result of the enormous decrease during the year in the amount of stock in Basutoland, followed by the abnormal rains which fell in November and December, many of the sheet eroded portions of the Territory have recovered in a marvellous way. Much of the grass, however, is of an annual type, and it will take a few years of careful management of the pasturage to ensure the establishment of perennial types.

During the year a considerable amount of soil erosion work has been done on the Maseru Reserve, chiefly of a preventative nature, which should prove an excellent example to the people of what ought to be done to check erosion.

Animal Husbandry.

This department of production has, in the past, been the most important in the Territory, the principal factors being sheep and goat breeding for the protection of wool and mohair, and cattle raising. Horses have also in the past played their part in the economic development of the Territory. During the year all domesticated animals have existed under the most adverse conditions and the economic welfare of the Basuto suffered severely. Fortunately, wool and mohair prices increased considerably in the spring, and the importance of these products has again been illustrated.

Sheep and Goats.—Basutoland is considered to have the best natural sheep and goat pasturage and climate in South Africa, and there is no doubt that if the sheep-owner was only capable of bringing more intelligence and effort to bear on their production, some of the best fine Merino wool and mohair could be grown.

In order to avoid deterioration in the breeding of sheep as a wool-producing industry, legislation was issued prohibiting the importation of Persian and bastard rams, and from time to time a good stamp of Merino ram has been introduced by the Government for distribution amongst certain of the more progressive breeders. The efforts of the Veterinary Department have, however, until some two or three years ago, been mainly concentrated on the eradication of scab. Over a period of nine years 202 dipping-tanks have been erected in all parts of Basutoland and, owing to the untiring efforts of the Principal Veterinary Officer and his staff, by the end of 1932 Basutoland was practically clear of scab. Eleven sporadic outbreaks were detected in 1933 but were promptly dealt with, and it is confidently hoped that in the near future one may look forward to the final destruction of the last acarus of scab in Basutoland.

During the period under review, 1,592,418 sheep and goats have been table-inspected and 15,545,490 have been field-inspected, which figures clearly reflect the energetic work done by the much depleted Veterinary staff under most trying conditions.

The continued diminution of the flocks has progressed, largely due to the Basuto utilizing them for food during the recent famine, and native owners taking up the line of least resistance and feeding on meat ready to hand. The rapid rise in wool prices from 1d. to 2½d. in 1932, to 6d. for the spring clip of 1933 has, however, very materially brought home to the stock owners the truth of the propaganda work the Veterinary Department has been preaching for some time, viz., to confine the consumption of sheep to undesirable and kempy animals, as it was only a matter of time for wool prices to recover. Unfortunately little discrimination was shown in the consumption of small stock, and the advice that goats should be eaten in preference to sheep was not followed to any appreciable extent.

Despite the worst drought on record, the sheep stood up to the conditions remarkably well and it is estimated that not more than 2½ per cent. of the sheep in the Territory died from actual drought conditions. This was largely due to the fact that by the time the real pinch came the Territory was to a big extent understocked, and to the absence of sheep scab. Had sheep scab existed to the extent it did ten years ago, then it is very probable that the number of sheep would have been decimated.

Mohair prices, fortunately, have improved from 2d.-3d. to 5d.-6d., but the market lacks stability and is certainly not encouraging to

producers. In these circumstances it is clear that it will be more profitable to concentrate on the production of good merino wool.

The recent census shows a reduction in sheep of 415,398, and in goats of 138,194, making the estimated number in the Territory at the end of 1933 of sheep, 1,469,200; and of goats, 531,000. These figures speak for themselves and largely explain the lack of spending power of the Basuto. It is estimated, at present-day prices, that each sheep should return to the native 2s. 6d. per head per annum, so that his spending power on last year has been reduced £51,922, a very serious item when associated with a very bad harvest.

The importance of the wool and mohair industry to Basutoland is fully recognized and now that the Territory is definitely understocked, it does appear to be a very favourable moment to put into practice the schemes that have been suggested for making this industry more fruitful; but it is hoped that this will be the next field for the Veterinary Department to conquer. These schemes include more discrimination in the selection of rams and the better packing and marketing of the wool.

Cattle.—Pasturage deterioration resulting from overstocking associated with progressive years of drought and no effort on the part of the owner to breed from his best animals have undoubtedly lowered the standard of the cattle, and it is to be regretted that the scheme put up by the Principal Veterinary and Agricultural Officer to eliminate all undesirable bulls by castration could not be commenced during 1933. Unfortunately the discussion of the matter in the National Council did not take place owing to its postponement, but it is hoped to be able to proceed towards the end of 1934. With the diminished numbers of cattle in the Territory and the better grazing conditions that obtain to-day, the opportunity to put the scheme into practice could not be more favourable.

Although the sheep were able to withstand the drought, the converse was the case with the cattle. Absence of pasturage and water took its toll, more especially in the western areas of the Territory where overstocking has been more prevalent. It is to be regretted that no cattle census has been taken since 1921 when our bovines numbered 574,415. Of late years it has been thought that the number of cattle was receding and this year there is no doubt whatever that Basutoland is no longer overstocked. In fact, losses have been so great that it is doubtful whether there are to-day sufficient ploughing oxen to plant the required quantity of food to sustain the nation. It is estimated that some 120,000 cattle have died during 1933 in addition to which 28,000 were exported to the Union, mostly for ploughing purposes; and that at the end of 1933 there were approximately only 400,000 head of cattle in the Territory.

This diminution in our cattle associated with the good rains since November has had a remarkably beneficial effect on the pasturage, and areas that looked like permanent deserts are now one waving mass of grass.

Drought conditions appeared to be adverse to the spread of anthrax, and only 11 outbreaks were reported.

Horses.—Basuto ponies were at one time much sought after throughout the whole of South Africa, being of sturdy build, sure-footed and hardy. During the South African War the Territory was largely depleted of its best types for remount purposes, and as a result of this there has been considerable deterioration of the breed. Many years ago a Government Stud was introduced in an attempt to improve the stamp and to check further deterioration. The original policy was to introduce Arab blood, but later this was changed and thoroughbred stallions were substituted. During the year under review 68 mares were served. 37 mares proved pregnant from the previous season, and there is clear evidence that both "Vibration" and "Landing" are capable of siring excellent stock if given the opportunity.

Of all animals that have suffered from the drought, the horse must be given priority. Overwork, conjoined with the scarcity of both food and water during 1933, has taken a serious toll of these unfortunate animals. It is feared that this will adversely affect the mountain transport conditions of the future. The 1933 census reveals that there were 75,356 horses in the Territory as against 89,583 in 1932, and 152,325 in 1921. Mules remain more or less stationary at 1,129.

Donkeys.—The only animal that has appreciably increased since 1921 is the donkey, largely due to the constant import from the Union, where they are of no value whatever. In 1921 the census indicated 5,383 donkeys; to-day a census reveals that there are 15,100 in the Territory . As the donkey is recognized as the worst type of pasturage despoiler, legislation was introduced during the year to prohibit further importations.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The following is a comparative statement of the imports and exports by general traders during the last three years :-

Imports.

Description.	*1930*		*1931*		*1932*		*1933*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£		£		£
Merchandise	—	431,534	—	389,237	—	404,041	—	362,986
Live Stock :—	*No.*		*No.*		*No.*		*No.*	
Horses, Mules, etc.	12	34	12	70	16	67	40	98
Cattle	645	1,526	436	996	349	793	1,264	1,691
Sheep and Goats	312	163	344	144	838	275	783	210
Grain :—	*Bags.*		*Bags.*		*Bags.*		*Bags.*	
Wheat and Wheat Meal	5,179	6,760	4,917	7,529	3,894	6,386	8,675	10,381
Maize and Maize Meal	61,416	30,318	139,901	63,302	95,718	41,880	356,158	217,007
Kaffir Corn	10,828	7,090	1,374	1,015	1,983	1,291	25,018	17,028
Other Produce	—	524	—	440	—	378	—	1,709
Total Imports ...	—	£477,949	—	£462,733	—	£455,111	—	£611,110

Exports.

	No.	£	*No.*	£	*No.*	£	*No.*	£
Live Stock :—								
Horses, Mules, etc.	58	330	178	717	308	1,218	52	144
Cattle	3,617	14,121	8,337	27,616	5,668	15,947	17,491	41,665
Sheep and Goats	1,103	552	2,420	497	1,456	293	3,831	1,423
Grain :—	*Bags.*		*Bags.*		*Bags.*		*Bags.*	
Wheat and Wheat Meal	131,308	105,330	103,706	90,888	196,873	168,015	55,822	45,102
Maize and Maize Meal	6,061	2,169	295	168	1,908	765	107	71
Kaffir Corn	4,032	2,374	10,247	6,821	6,500	3,461	1,561	806
Barley	224	63	89	22	97	38	91	36
Beans and Peas	5,873	4,233	4,119	2,214	3,845	1,805	603	361
Wool and Mohair :—	*lb.*		*lb.*		*lb.*		*lb.*	
Wool	9,729,169	156,601	9,325,140	98,304	11,832,391	105,435	9,864,043	196,146
Mohair	942,725	21,837	1,241,743	21,442	1,033,863	10,136	1,926,180	26,697
Hides and Skins :—								
Skins	359,767	3,747	119,619	679	43,778	203	167,615	1,577
Hides	371,620	6,044	186,015	2,013	102,730	770	1,193,759	15,551
Miscellaneous	—	225	—	45	—	192	—	578
Total Exports ...	—	£317,626	—	£251,427	—	£308,278	—	£330,157

Other Statistics.

(1)	Government imports		£32,125
(2)	Total number of sheep and goats exported ...		10,918
(3)	Total number of sheep and goats imported ...		20,191
(4)	Cattle : Number exported		28,869
	Number imported		11,728
		lb.	
(5)	Wool exported by traders ...	9,864,043	
	Wool exported by hawkers and individuals.	1,156,080	
	Total wool exported		11,020,123
	Mohair exported by traders ...	1,926,180	
	Mohair exported by hawkers and individuals.	63,388	
	Total mohair exported ...		1,989,568
	Total wool and mohair ...		13,009,691

All exports are made to the Union of South Africa, and imports are as a general rule made through the same channel. The past few years have been chiefly characterized by the low prices obtaining for wool and mohair, the staple products of the Territory, on the value of which the main purchasing power of the native depends. Things improved, however, towards the end of the year, when the ruling price for the spring clip was 6d. per lb. Until normal times prevail again there is little prospect of further development of trade with Great Britain. The principal articles of United Kingdom manufacture for which there exist definite possibilities of further development in trade are blankets, native truck, and agricultural implements (excluding steam or motor driven machinery). The blanket factory started some years ago in Harrismith in the Orange Free State takes an increasingly large portion of the blanket trade which was formerly given to manufacturers in the United Kingdom.

It is unfortunate that British motor-cars have been unable to compete successfully with United States makes in this Territory; and it is interesting to note that out of a total of 398 private cars and taxis registered in Basutoland during 1933, 370 were of American and 23 of British make; of the new cars introduced into Basutoland during the year, 73 were American and 10 were British. The British commercial vehicle has not made the progress that was hoped, and of a total of 109 registered in 1933 only 6 were of British make, the balance being American.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

There are no factories or industrial undertakings in the Territory, and there is only one mile of railway, which is owned and operated by the South African Railway Administration.

Salaries and wages earned by Europeans vary from £200 to £850 per annum in the case of Government servants and from £120 to £500 per annum in the case of employees of trading concerns. These figures are in respect of normal times and it is probable that during 1933 they would have been generally reduced by 10 per cent.

Native wages vary from £24 to £204 per annum in the case of Government employees; and from £15 to £48 per annum in the case of store boys, etc., employed by traders.

The average cost of living for single natives is estimated at £1 *per mensem*, and for married natives £3 *per mensem*. The cost of living of Europeans varies considerably and is in a great measure dependent on the social or official position of the person concerned.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education in Basutoland is mainly in the hands of the three Missions, the Paris Evangelical Mission Society, the Roman Catholic Mission, and the English Church Mission, who receive grants-in-aid from the Government. These mission schools are scattered over the country according to the density of the population, and it is probable that there are very few children who are not within reach of a school.

The educational system of Basutoland is intended primarily to serve the interests of the vast majority of the pupils, many of whom leave school after attending for three or four years only. To this end the education in the lower class is almost entirely in the vernacular so that the child becomes literate in his own language and is not taken out of his environment. The country unfortunately is not well suited to the teaching of indigenous arts and crafts owing to the lack of material, but wherever possible sewing is encouraged amongst the girls and gardening or other manual work amongst the boys.

There are 531 aided elementary schools, teaching mainly through the vernacular, although English is started in the upper classes. Primary intermediate instruction is given in 38 schools, of which three are Government schools, managed by committees, while the rest are under mission control. Finally there are nine institutions which give specialized training, e.g., academic, normal, industrial, or agricultural. Apart from the three intermediate schools, the only other Government school is the Lerotholi Technical School at Maseru which is under its own Director.

The total roll for all schools for the year 1933 was 60,902 pupils, with an average attendance during the year of 45,865 pupils. The estimated expenditure from the Native Education Fund for the year 1933-34 is £45,911.

In addition to the above-mentioned schools there are 211 schools registered by the three Missions, but not drawing grants, with a roll of 11,212 pupils. The majority of these belong to the Roman Catholic Mission and, when the financial position improves, it is hoped that these schools, if eligible, will receive Government aid.

No fees are charged in elementary or intermediate schools nor is attendance compulsory. Some duties and herding interfere with school work and regular attendance, but on the whole Basuto children show wonderful keenness in attending school. A written examination for Standard VI is open to pupils from all parts of the country. Six bursaries are awarded each year, so that children of exceptional ability can continue their education at one of the institutions. University education is provided at the South African Native College at Fort Hare in the Union of South Africa to which the administration contributes £300 per annum besides providing an annual bursary for a promising Mosuto student. Thus it is possible for a child to proceed from his village school to the South African Native College.

Although the Missions are chiefly concerned with mission and educational work, there is no doubt that indirectly they do a great deal to promote public welfare. Each mission station is undoubtedly a centre of civilization and, with its various branches radiating from it, there are few parts of the country which do not come under missionary influence.

Recreation is encouraged in every school but owing to the scattered nature of the population and the domestic work required of the children it is difficult to arrange regular competitions. At certain camps and missions in the lowlands, however, sports meetings have been held and have aroused much enthusiasm. In all the camps sports clubs have been formed, football, tennis and cricket being the popular games.

Pathfinder and Wayfarer bodies have been started in several centres with, as far as it is possible to say in so short a time, every prospect of success.

At most mission centres annual singing competitions are held and are very popular with students, teachers, and the general public alike.

A detailed Annual Report on Education is published separately.

European Education.—There are several small schools in the Territory, managed by local committees and supported by the Government, and these provide elementary education for the children in the camps. For education beyond the elementary stage, children are sent to schools in the Union. The Government provides annually one bursary (for children under thirteen years of age) of £25 for two years; and for some time past now, through the generosity of Frasers, Limited, another bursary of £50 per annum for two years (also for children under thirteen years) has been instituted.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Railways.

The Territory is linked with the Union of South Africa railway system by a short branch line—one mile of which is in Basutoland—from Maseru to Marseilles on the Bloemfontein-Natal main line. The South African railway system follows closely the boundaries of the Territory and goods are transported by road to the nearest railway station across the border.

Roads and Bridle Paths.

The greater part of Basutoland is exceptionally mountainous and in this area all transport is effected with the use of pack animals. The Government undertake repairs to a few of the main bridle paths.

On the western side of Basutoland where there is an agricultural strip of country stretching from north to south, a fairly good road system has been developed. The main roads traverse the whole distance of this strip with branches leading west to the principal points of exit. In nearly all cases the roads are gravelled and allow for motor or ox-waggon traffic in all weather. There are, however, a number of unbridged rivers and spruits which during flood periods often delay travelling for some hours.

During 1933 regravelling and reshaping of the roads has been carried out systematically to the extent of the funds available. Practically no construction work has been undertaken, but a number of culverts have been erected and work has been done on improvement to road drainage.

From the main roads a number of feeder roads lead towards the interior. By-roads to trading stations, missions, etc., connect with these feeder roads, traversing still further into the interior, but although several roads now cross the first range of mountains none has yet penetrated to the second range. Feeder roads are maintained by the Government and are still of a disappointingly low standard. During the year under review a few additional culverts have been constructed on them, and when funds are available to extend this practice they should gradually improve.

The by-roads are in many instances unsuitable for any type of traffic except ox-waggons. They are maintained by traders and others to whose station they lead, assisted by annual Government grants on the £ for £ principle.

On the eastern side of Basutoland in the Qacha's Nek district a short system of roads similar to that described above exists, and the standard reached is more or less the same as that obtaining on the western side of the Territory.

During the year unusual difficulties have been experienced in keeping the roads open to traffic. Practically no rain fell during the period January to October when the country was visited by

unprecedented dust storms which repeatedly filled road drains and sometimes culverts with sand.

At the same time the amount of traffic on the roads increased very greatly. Maize had to be transported in exceptional quantities to the trading stations where owing to the failure of crops considerable difficulty was experienced in supplying a sufficient quantity to meet the requirements of the natives.

This volume of traffic, combined with the prevailing drought, caused the road surfaces to break up considerably.

In November and December exceptionally heavy rains seriously damaged many of the spruits and donga crossings, and it will be many months before repairs can be completed.

Towards the end of the year gangs of famine relief workers helped to maintain the roads and were of considerable assistance in helping to keep them open to traffic.

The funds allocated during the last three years for the maintenance of roads, bridges, ponts, etc., of which 98 per cent. is used for roads, are given below :—

	£
1931	17,000
1932	13,500
1933	14,000

The following is a classification of the class and mileage of roads in the Territory :

Concrete, asphaltic, bituminous surface.—Nil.
Water-bound macadam surface tarred.—Nil.
Gravel.—320 miles main road and 62 miles feeder road.
Earth.—40 miles main road, and 70 miles feeder road.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks within the Territory ; but the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, has a branch office at Maseru.

The only change in connexion with currency in Basutoland during the year was effected by Proclamation No. 2 of 1933, which made notes of the South African Reserve Bank legal tender for all purposes. The issue by the Standard Bank of gold coin was suspended as from the 28th of December, 1932 ; and as a result of the Reserve Bank having been relieved of its obligation to redeem its notes in gold and the consequential increase in the price of gold, the Administration, in order to protect the natives of the Territory, arranged to buy gold coin at the bank rates of exchange at all district offices. In this manner some £6,000 in gold coin was exchanged, apart from that dealt with at the Maseru branch of the Standard Bank. For the most part a golden sovereign was worth 27s.

During the year the Maseru branch of the Standard Bank exported £4,500 gold and £18,100 silver; and it is estimated that at December, 1933, not more than from £17,000 to £22,000 in notes and £5,000 in coin was in circulation in the Territory.

The weights and measures in common use in the Territory are the British Imperial.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Owing to the continued financial stringency the activities of the Public Works Department were again curtailed during 1933.

The main work done by the Department during the year was the maintenance of Government buildings and water schemes throughout the Territory. These have all been kept in as good repair as the funds available allowed. This is, of course, additional to the road work dealt with in Chapter X.

XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE.

Justice.

The laws in force in Basutoland are the same as were in force in the Cape of Good Hope up to the 18th March, 1884, except where repealed or altered by Proclamation of the High Commissioner, who is empowered to make by Proclamation such laws as may be necessary for the peace, order, and good government of the Territory.

The Basutoland Courts of Law consist of :—

(*a*) *The Resident Commissioner's Court*, which constitutes the Supreme Court of Basutoland, and from which an appeal lies to the Privy Council. Under Proclamation No. 10 of 1928, as amended, the constitution of the Resident Commissioner's Court was altered, and provision made for the appointment of a judicial officer. The Court is now constituted by the Resident Commissioner or, when deputed by him thereto, the Deputy Resident Commissoner or the Judicial Commissioner sitting alone or together; and there may be associated with the Court not more than two officers of the Administration, appointed by the Resident Commissioner for the purpose by notice in the *Gazette*. The Resident Commissioner when present and, in his absence, the Judicial Commissioner is President of the Court, and the judgment of the Court is the judgment pronounced or approved by the President.

The power conferred on the Resident Commissioner to review and correct the proceedings of Courts or officers may be exercised also by the Judicial Commissioner, and any decision recorded or

action taken by the Judicial Commissioner in the course of such review or correction shall be of the same force and effect as if it had been recorded or taken by the Resident Commissioner.

(*b*) *Courts of Assistant Commissioners*, who are empowered to impose sentences not exceeding two years' imprisonment with hard labour or fines not exceeding £50, with jurisdiction in civil cases up to £500. These Courts have no jurisdiction, however, to try summarily any person charged with treason, murder, attempt to murder, culpable homicide, rape, attempt to commit rape, or sedition.

These Courts are situated in each of the seven districts and in the sub-district of Butha Buthe. Police Officers have been given minor jurisdiction in the Courts of Assistant Commissioners to try minor offences, with power to impose sentences not exceeding six months' imprisonment with hard labour and fines not exceeding £10. Detached courts are held in the sub-districts of Peka and Mokhotlong presided over by Police officers exercising minor jurisdiction.

(*c*) *Chiefs' Courts.*—Under Proclamation No. 2B of 1884 the Paramount Chief and other native Chiefs of Basutoland were authorized to continue to exercise jurisdiction according to native law and custom in civil and criminal cases within such limits as may be defined by any rules established by the authority of the Resident Commissioner, subject to a proviso that no suit, action, or proceeding whatsoever to which any European shall be a party, either as plaintiff or complainant, or as defendant, shall be adjudicated upon by any such Chief, save by the consent of all parties concerned. An appeal lies from the decision of any Chief to the Court of the Assistant Commissioner of the district within which such Chief exercises jurisdiction.

The following table shows the number of convictions for various crimes and offences during the last five years :—

Nature of Crime.	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*
In Magisterial Courts—					
Offences against the person ...	213	219	190	351	95
Offences against property	221	282	299	373	558
Offences against liquor laws ...	57	47	41	20	6
Other crimes	1,313	1,968	2,406	2,729	1,778
In Resident Commissioner's Court—					
Murder	6	10	11	10	6
Culpable homicide	30	23	14	62	68
Attempted murder	5	—	3	5	4
Rape	5	2	9	6	5
Other offences against the person ...	1	6	9	1	6
Offences against property with violence to the person.	33	52	50	214	94
Other offences against property ...	14	31	17	33	45
Other crimes	—	—	1	1	3

Police.

Constitution and Command.—The Basutoland Mounted Police is maintained under Proclamation No. 12 of 1921. The Force is under the control of the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland, who is also the Commandant, with a Staff Officer who is resident in Maseru.

It is a matter for regret that the continued financial stringency has not permitted the reopening of the Training Depot which was closed down in 1931. It is hoped, however, that when conditions improve, it will be reopened even for a period to allow for refresher courses, in order that the efficiency of the Force may not be permanently impaired.

Finger-print work is carried out by a Warrant Officer attached to the depot. This branch continues to perform valuable service in supplying the Courts with the previous criminal history of accused persons whose finger-prints are sent in for identification. During the year under review 1,550 finger-prints were received and recorded.

Establishment.—The establishment of the Force on 31st December, 1933, was as follows :—

Europeans.		*Native Police.*	
Staff Officer	1	Sergeant-Major ...	1
Inspectors	5	Sergeants	14
Sub-Inspectors ...	6	Corporals	15
Warrant Officer ...	1	Privates	260
		Saddlers	4
Total	13	Total	294

Of the European establishment, one Inspector was acting as an Assistant Commissioner for four months during the year; one Sub-Inspector was seconded for the whole period to the Secretariat and one as the Basutoland Government Representative in Johannesburg. Two Sub-Inspectors and the Chief Constable were placed on famine relief duty from October until the end of the year.

Distribution and Strength.—Mounted detachments of the Force are stationed at Maseru and in the various districts of the Territory, under the command of European officers of the establishment who are responsible for the general police routine being carried out within their districts and for the efficiency of their respective detachments. The following table shows the distribution of the strength as at 31st December, 1933 :—

Station.	*Officers.*	*Warrant Officers.*	*Non-Commissioned Officers.*	*Men.*
Butha Buthe ...	1	—	3	25
Leribe	1	—	5	26
Teyateyaneng ...	1	—	2	19
Maseru	3	—	3	38
Depot	1	1	2	1
Mafeteng	1	—	4	26
Mohales Hoek ...	1	—	2	27
Quthing	1	—	3	37
Qacha's Nek... ...	1	—	4	44
Mokhotlong	1	—	2	17
Totals ...	12	1	30	260

The conduct and health of the Police have been uniformly good throughout the year. There was only one dismissal during the year, and four discharges on medical grounds, two deaths and six retirements. The military Long Service and Good Conduct Medal was awarded to six members of the Force in 1933.

Crime.—During the year, 856 deportees were accepted from the Union after their claims to Basutcland birth had been established. This is an increase of 161 persons compared with last year, and in most cases their absence from the Territory had been upwards of fifteen years and their records were bad. This influx of criminals into the Territory has already had a marked effect on the increase in crimes of store-breaking and theft, which became quite abnormal in 1933.

The number of cases reported to the Police for investigation during the year amounted to 3,488, of which 2,344 were brought before the Magisterial Courts, 1,126 were not proceeded with for want of evidence or were handed over to the Native Courts, and 18 were outstanding at 31st December, 1933. There was a decrease of 947 in the cases brought before Magisterial Courts. As a result of these investigations 2,996 persons were proceeded against, 44 of this number being females; 2,676 persons were arrested and 320 summoned to attend the Courts. The following table gives comparative statistics for the past three years of the persons dealt with in summary courts :—

	1931.	*1932.*	*1933.*
Convicted summarily...	2,936	3,473	2,450
Committed for trial	203	367	319
Discharged :—			
For want of prosecution... ...	10	83	41
On the merits of the case... ...	519	348	186
Total persons proceeded against	3,668	4,271	2,996

There was an increase in convictions of persons for theft crimes of 193 in 1933 as compared with 1932. This, of course, includes convictions in the Superior as well as Magisterial Courts.

Patrols, etc.—During 1933, 7,979 patrols were sent out and covered approximately 169,667 miles. The big reduction in patrols and mileage covered is attributed to the reduction in the strength of the Force.

Apart from the ordinary Police routine, members of the Force were called upon to perform extraneous duties in assisting in the collection of hut tax and of wool export duty, in providing prison guards, clerical assistance in various district offices, and services in the Medical and Veterinary Departments.

Prisons.

There are gaols at the Headquarter Camp of each of the seven districts into which the Territory is divided and in the sub-districts of Butha Buthe, Mokhotlong and Peka.

Buildings.—All gaol buildings are of stone with iron roofs and cement floors; the inmates, however, are supplied with bed-boards on which to sleep. The majority of cells are built to contain on the average 8 to 10 prisoners, but there are usually one or two smaller ones for violent or dangerous inmates, or for occasional European convicts. Attached to each prison is an exercise yard and cement baths with water laid on. The cook-house is in the yard, and a daily scale of ration as laid down by statute is provided. As no special accommodation exists in the district gaols for female or European prisoners, they are invariably transferred to Maseru to serve sentence, etc.

Health.—The health of the prisoners during 1933 has, on the whole, been good, the daily average on the sick list being 10·6, Thirteen deaths and one execution were recorded during the year. All prisoners are medically examined on admission, and the Medical Officers make regular visits to the gaols, apart from the weekly inspection when they accompany the district administrative officer in charge. Prisoners reporting sick are taken to the Government dispensary, and if necessary are admitted to hospital where they are put into the ordinary public wards and treated on similar lines to other patients.

Discipline.—During 1933 there have again been more breaches of prison discipline, and more escapes of prisoners have been reported, than has previously been the case, the numbers for the last three years being 17, 19 and 34 respectively; but on the whole the conduct of the prisoners has been good. Until 1929 the large majority of convicts were stock thieves, persons committed for public violence in connexion with land disputes and, of course, a large percentage of persons convicted for offences against the revenue law. For the most part they were not the habitual criminal

type, and gaol discipline was therefore more or less easy to maintain. Unfortunately since then there has been an influx of the more criminal type owing to the deportations of bad characters from the Union, and this policy has already made itself felt in the gaols throughout the Territory to the detriment of discipline.

Labour.—During the year under review the policy commenced in 1931 of utilizing convicts to a greater extent on road construction and maintenance in the vicinity of the various camps has been maintained. But, as a general rule, where possible they are trained to become useful members of society on release, by instruction in such trades as masonry, carpentry, building and other kinds of manual labour.

Sentences.—The majority of offenders are given the option of a fine or imprisonment with hard labour, but for the more serious offences sentences of imprisonment only are imposed. Provision has been made under Proclamation No. 55 of 1921 for the punishment of offenders in certain cases under which the Court may in its discretion :—

(*a*) postpone for a period not exceeding six months the passing of sentence, and release the offender on one or more conditions ; or

(*b*) pass sentence but order the operation of the sentence to be suspended for a period not exceeding three years on such conditions as the Court may specify in the order ; or

(*c*) pass sentence of a fine or, in default of payment, imprisonment, but suspend the issue of a warrant for committing the offender to a gaol in default of payment until the expiry of such period not exceeding twelve months as the Court may fix for payment, in instalments or otherwise, of the amount of the fine or until default has been made.

Suspended sentences are invariably awarded in cases of default of payment of tax and similar offences against the revenue laws.

Good conduct remission up to one-fourth of the sentence is allowed on all sentences of imprisonment for six months or more.

Statistics.—During the year under review 3,210 persons passed through the various gaols in the Territory, and of these 2,044 were committed to penal imprisonment. The corresponding figures for 1932 were 4,334 and 2,598 respectively.

Juvenile Offenders.—It had been the practice for several years to transfer all juvenile prisoners of from 15 to 20 years of age, whose sentences were over three months, to serve their sentences at the Peka gaol in order to prevent contact as far as possible with adult offenders. When the European officer was removed from Peka during 1933, however, the post was practically closed down and all juveniles were transferred to Leribe, where they are kept segregated from adult prisoners so far as possible. The daily average number of iuveniles in prison during 1933 was 55.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following was the more important legislation issued during 1933 by Proclamation in the *Gazette* :—

(1) No. 1.—Immigration and Prevention of Trespass Proclamation, 1933.

(2) No. 10.—Customs Surtax Cancellation Proclamation, 1933 (Repealing Sections 5 and 6 of Customs Tariff (Amendment) Proclamation, 1932).

(3) No. 15.—Basutoland Donkeys Importation Restriction Proclamation, 1933.

(4) No. 16.—Basutoland Customs (Trade Agreements) Proclamation, 1933 (Amending the Law in view of certain Trade Agreements entered into at Ottawa).

(5) No. 22.—Basutoland Poll Tax Proclamation, 1933 (imposing a Poll Tax on certain adult males in Basutoland).

(6) No. 23.—Basutoland Income Tax (Amendment) Proclamation, 1933 (Further amending the Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1920).

(7) No. 26.—Basutoland Electricity Supply Proclamation, 1933 (making provision for the supply and use of electric power in Basutoland).

(8) No. 34.—Basutoland Customs Tariff and Excise Duties (Amendment) Proclamation, 1933 (Amending further the law relating to Customs and Excise).

(9) No. 54.—Basutoland Postage and Revenue Stamps Proclamation, 1933 (empowering the High Commissioner to authorize the issue of stamps for postage and revenue in Basutoland).

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure for the past five financial years :—

REVENUE.

Head.	*1928–29*	*1929–30*	*1930–31*	*1931–32*	*1932–33*
	£	£	£	£	£
Native Tax	141,719	136,237	125,665	116,783	121,795
Customs and Excise	96,072	95,564	77,810	80,842	86,161
Posts and Telegraphs	9,181	9,377	8,883	9,964	9,172
Licences	9,206	9,141	8,068	7,821	7,855
Fees of Court of Office	1,094	1,083	810	1,042	810
Judicial Fines	2,515	2,039	1,445	976	783
Income Tax	16,022	10,732	5,929	3,957	4,040
Fees for Services Rendered ...	1,296	1,387	1,105	1,165	1,020
Interest	3,670	5,101	4,033	3,997	2,473
Wool Export Duty	33,976	32,187	25,436	19,265	678
Miscellaneous	10,038	8,943	8,654	8,040	22,094
Education Levy	15,103	14,885	13,963	13,017	13,853
Civil Servants Salary Deductions	—	—	—	—	4,676
Totals	£339,892	£326,676	£281,801	£266,869	£275,410

EXPENDITURE.

Head.	*1928–29*	*1929–30*	*1930–31*	*1931–32*	*1932–33*
	£	£	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner	13,099	12,724	12,783	12,789	13,280
District Administration ...	14,118	14,926	15,333	15,121	15,596
Police	38,357	38,678	37,600	35,455	33,908
Administration of Justice ...	11,764	12,087	13,306	13,255	10,683
Posts and Telegraphs	11,568	13,494	12,004	11,027	14,065
Public Works Department ...	5,239	5,276	5,322	5,761	5,166
Public Works Extraordinary ...	2,747	3,597	5,168	345	39
Public Works Recurrent ...	29,502	30,521	29,774	20,516	17,949
Medical	25,676	26,832	28,202	25,394	24,507
Education	58,596	57,105	53,235	49,734	51,587
Lerotholi Technical School ...	6,658	6,674	5,772	5,541	5,195
Agriculture—					
Veterinary	39,178	37,104	39,140	23,630	12,799
Agricultural		5,911	6,849	5,751	7,184
Allowances to Chiefs	12,562	14,260	13,754	11,628	11,472
National Council	1,762	1,777	1,634	1,613	1,786
Leper Settlement	19,238	20,077	21,501	20,317	19,820
Pensions	11,828	14,291	12,726	11,242	11,760
Miscellaneous	7,998	8,468	7,225	6,758	6,243
Capital Expenditure	6,687	10,060	1,090	4,312	585
Totals	£316,577	£333,862	£322,418	£280,189	£263,624

Debt.

The Basutoland Administration has no Public Debt, but its liabilities in connexion with the "Guardian's Fund" and the "Native Education Fund" were at 31st March, 1933, £11,587 and £7,574 respectively.

Assets.

The assets at 31st March, 1933, were as follows :—

	£
Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited :—	
"Current Account"	32,272
"Deposit Account"	10,000
Crown Agents for Colonies :—	
"Current Account"	319
"Deposit Account"	16,800
Balances with Sub-Accountants	5,538
On loan to Swaziland Administration	37,000
Advances recoverable	8,742
Stores Suspense	8,046
Gold Purchase Account	52
	£118,769

Description of Main Heads of Taxation.

Native Tax.—The collection under this head for the year ended 31st March, 1933, was £121,795. Fuller details as regards the method of collection, etc., are given on page 32.

Customs and Excise.—Under the Customs Agreement entered into with the Union of South Africa in 1910, the Basutoland Administration receives annually 0·88575 per cent. of the total Customs revenue of the Union, less payments to Northern and Southern Rhodesia and South-West Africa. The amount received for the twelve months ended 31st March, 1933, was £84,503.

In addition to the above, a duty is levied on importations of Union manufactured spirits and beer into Basutoland, and the amount received in this connexion for the above period was £1,658, making the total Customs revenue for the Territory, £86,161. The rates of duty on spirits and beer are governed by Part III of the Schedule to Proclamation No. 64 of 1921.

Licences.—Trades and businesses are subject to annual licences in terms of the Schedule to Proclamation No. 28 of 1928, which consolidated and amended the laws relating to the carrying on of businesses in Basutoland. A duty at the rate of ¼ per cent. is charged upon the purchase consideration in the case of the transfer of a General Trader's Licence. Labour Agents' and Motor Vehicle Registration Licences are governed by Proclamations Nos. 27 of 1907, and 7 of 1926, respectively. Assistant Commissioners are responsible for the collection of all licence fees in their districts.

The following table gives the chief classes of licences and the amount collected in respect of each for the past two years :—

	1932.	*1933.*
	£	£
General Traders	4,788	4,775
Hawkers	350	349
Labour Agents	247	294
Labour Runners	49	51
Commercial Travellers	433	479
Miscellaneous	697	709
Motor Registration...	1,159	1,148
Motor Drivers	44	30
Transfer Fees	54	20
Totals	£7,821	£7,855

Income Tax.—The collection of income-tax is governed by the Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation No. 52 of 1920, as amended. The general provisions of the principal Proclamation apply each year to the determination of the taxable amount on which the tax is to

be levied and the collection of the amount payable in respect of that taxable amount, but the actual rates to be levied are fixed by Proclamation each year.

The taxes imposed for the year 1932 were: (i) Normal Tax, (ii) Super Tax; and the rates were fixed as follows:—

(i) Normal Tax:—

(*a*) In the case of companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, two shillings and sixpence.

(*b*) In the case of persons other than companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, one shilling and as many two-thousandths of a penny as there are pounds in that amount, subject to a maximum rate of two shillings in every pound.

(ii) Super Tax:—

(*a*) When the amount subject to super tax does not exceed twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, one shilling and as many five-hundredths of a penny as there are pounds in that amount.

(*b*) When the amount subject to super tax exceeds twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, five shillings.

The amount collected for the income-tax year ended 30th June, 1932, was as follows:—

	£
Arrear Tax	270
Current Tax	3,770
Total	4,040

The following table shows the sources from which taxable incomes were derived and the amount of tax paid from each source, and also compares the collection with the previous year:—

Source.	*1931–32.*	*1932–33.*	*+ or −*
	£	£	£
General traders	650	736	+ 86
Civil servants	1,287	1,477	+ 190
Employed persons	221	525	+ 304
Others	934	436	− 498
Non-residents	865	617	− 248
Totals	£3,957	£3,791	− £166

The number of incomes for current tax and the total amounts of taxable incomes in the various categories were :—

Number.	*Category.*	*Taxable Income.*
	£	£
58 ...	500 and under ...	23,269
47 ...	501 to 750 ...	28,864
28 ...	751 to 1,000 ...	24,455
16 ...	1,001 to 1,500 ...	19,061
5 ...	1,501 to 2,000 ...	8,359
7 ...	2,001 and over ...	19,222
161		£123,230

Wool Export Duty.—The imposition and the collection of the duty on wool and mohair exported from the Territory are governed by the Wool and Mohair Export Duty Proclamation No. 14 of 1923, as amended. This duty was originally imposed to help to defray the expenses of the costly campaign inaugurated to eradicate scab among sheep and goats which was at that time very rife throughout Basutoland.

The duty was suspended as from the 1st April, 1932, and re-imposed as from the 15th March, 1933, at the rate of 2d. for every 12½ lb. in weight. The total receipts to the 31st March amounted to £678.

Education Levy.—In accordance with Proclamation No. 13 of 1927, every adult native male domiciled in Basutoland has to to pay a levy of three shillings per annum, and the total collected each year is credited to a special fund known as the " Basutoland Native Education Fund ", and is devoted solely to purposes of native education. For purposes of convenience this levy is collected in conjunction with the hut tax, and both are embodied in one receipt which is superscribed, " Hut Tax £1 5s. 0d. ; Education Levy, 3s."

Customs Tariff.

In accordance with the Customs Agreement entered into with the Union Government in 1910, Basutoland maintains a Customs tariff similar to that which exists in the Union of South Africa.

Excise and Stamp Duties.

Stamp duties are imposed in terms of Proclamation No. 16 of 1907 as amended, and are mostly chargeable in respect of the following instruments, acts, etc., arbitrations and awards, bills of exchange, bonds, courts of law, acts and deeds of donations, leases, transfers, and in respect of duties performed by the Master of Court.

Hut Tax.

Hut tax is imposed by the Basutoland Native Tax Proclamation, 1911 (as amended). Every adult male native domiciled in Basutoland is liable for the payment of a tax at the rate of twenty-five shillings per annum and in addition, if such native has more than one wife according to native custom, a further sum of twenty-five shillings for every such additional wife. No native, however, is liable to pay in respect of himself and his wives more than three pounds fifteen shillings in any one year. A native inhabitant of the Union who resides in Basutoland for twelve months becomes liable to taxation in respect of that year, unless he is able to prove payment of tax in the country of his permanent residence.

Assistant Commissioners are empowered to exempt from the payment of tax, for any one year or more, any native who is incapacitated by extreme old age, personal infirmity, or other causes from earning a livelihood.

The Assistant Commissioners are in charge of the collection of tax in their districts, which duty they carry out through the Chiefs and Headmen who are nominally responsible to them for the collection in their respective wards. Paid native collectors operate in each district under the supervision of the Assistant Commissioners, and in conjunction with the Chiefs to whose wards they are appointed. To encourage the Chiefs to interest themselves in this very important part of their duties they are paid annual gratuities based on a percentage of the yearly collection in their respective wards. Facilities also exist, and are largely used by both individuals and labour recruiting agencies for the payment of tax at the Government offices situated in each of the camps and at the more important ports of exit. Members of the Basutoland Mounted Police are invariably employed towards the end of each financial year to patrol the districts, accompanied by chiefs' messengers, to give a stimulus to the collection and to bring in defaulters.

An officer of the Administration was stationed temporarily in Johannesburg during the year, with a staff of five native clerks, for the purpose of collecting arrear and current tax from Basutoland natives working on the gold mines along the reef. Upwards of 30,000 Basuto are always employed on the mines, and at the time operations commenced, many natives had been away from Basutoland for four or five years.

This office has now been in operation since April, 1932, and has become increasingly successful. During 1933 the designation of the Officer in Charge was changed to " Basutoland Government Representative ", and besides the collection of tax he has taken

over many duties in connexion with the Basuto that were formerly done by the Union Native Affairs Department. His propaganda amongst the mine workers to remit more money to their families during the bad times was met with marked success. The actual amount of tax collected during the year was £24,129.

Poll Tax.

By Proclamation No. 22 of the 5th May, 1933, a poll tax of £2 per annum was imposed on all adult males in Basutoland who are not liable for Native Tax. This is collected in two half-yearly instalments due on the 1st January and the 1st July. It is estimated that some £2,000 revenue will be collected annually from this tax.

Posts and Telegraphs.

The new Basutoland issue of postage and revenue stamps came on sale on the 1st December. There are eleven denominations ranged in the following order, the first ten being postage and revenue stamps :—½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s.; and for revenue purposes only £1. The respective colours are green, red, purple, blue, grey, light brown, orange, dark brown, blue-purple, olive and black. One design only is used, which contains a pleasing vignette of His Majesty the King, placed above a scene depicting the Maluti mountains and the Orange River, while in the foreground is a representation of a crocodile—the emblem of the ruling house of Moshesh.

XVI.—LABOUR.

The gold mines play an increasingly large part in the economic position of the Territory, by employing annually large numbers of Basuto. Undoubtedly they have been a very great stand-by during the present depression as providing practically the only well-paid field for labour. It is estimated that there are upwards of 35,000 Basuto on the mines at present and that over one million pounds is annually paid out to Basutoland natives. Many of them remit money through the Native Deposit and Remittance Agency to their families in Basutoland, and a big majority of them defer a portion of their monthly wage in order that they may collect it on their return home.

During 1933, £96,932 was paid out in remittances and £59,250 in deferred pay, the corresponding figures for 1932 being £37,814 and £50,165.

The following table gives the number of passes issued during the year and indicates the purpose for which the natives left the Territory :—

A. *Labour:* Mines—		
Gold		25,731
Coal		72
Total Mines		25,803
Agriculture		15,237
Miscellaneous		10,816
Total Labour		51,856
B. *Visiting*		57,651
Total		109,507

XVII.—FAMINE RELIEF.

The drought of 1932-33 left Basutoland with only sufficient crops to last through the winter, and it became evident that measures would be required to deal with those members of the population who were unable to support themselves until conditions improved. It was hoped that the planting of autumn wheat in 1933 would materially ease the position, but unfortunately the drought continued through the autumn and winter resulting in the total failure of the wheat crop in the lowlands which would have been harvested during December, 1933, and January, 1934. Serious droughts have been experienced in recent years, the crop failure in 1914 being the best remembered; but nothing approaching the conditions obtaining in the spring of 1933 has been experienced within living memory.

As early as April it was realised that the Administration would have to provide relief to many of the people and certain measures were formulated and steps taken to ensure that everything would be ready when the time came. It was not then anticipated, however, that relief measures would be required on the large scale that eventually became necessary.

It was at first decided that each Assistant Commissioner should be responsible for the relief of famine in his own district, and early in August relief measures were found to be necessary in Maseru district. Able-bodied men were put on to public works such as donga prevention, building dams, repairs to by-roads, etc., and were paid by the issue of maize. Men and women who could not work received rations of maize for themselves and

their families. By the end of August relief had assumed such proportions in the Maseru district that a conference of Assistant Commissioners was called and met in Maseru on the 4th of September to discuss the general position and to endeavour to arrive at some uniformity throughout the Territory. Shortly after this Mafeteng and Teyateyaneng commenced operations, and by the end of September, at which time it is estimated that some 70,000 people were receiving relief, it was decided to call a halt and to form a special Famine Relief Department to deal with the situation. Mr. How, Assistant Commissioner, Quthing, was called upon to undertake this duty as Controller. The Department came into being on the 11th October with a Controller and three Famine Relief Officers. Prior to this, at a meeting of the National Council on 7th October, the gravity of the position was explained to the Chiefs and Councillors who were told to return to their homes and to render every assistance they could to the Administration. The position at the time was exceedingly gloomy. Many people, officials, missionaries and traders were inclined to think that it might be necessary to feed half the population before matters improved. The natives themselves thought that they were going to die—they had been told so in the press—and the assistance given in August had resulted in such a rush of applications many of which were fraudulent, that it was impossible for the district staffs to cope adequately with the situation.

The Famine Department, after consultation, decided that the most effective manner of dealing with the problem would be to make personal inspections of all areas reported to be in distress in order to gather from first-hand impressions whether relief was necessary. To assist them in this work it was decided to attach one Medical Officer to the Department.

By the middle of November it became necessary to deal with cases in most districts and, by the end of that month, the following numbers had been dealt with and were receiving rations from the Government (these numbers exclude those who had received relief prior to the establishment of the Relief Department) :—

Mafeteng	3,234
Quthing	692
Maseru	404
Berea	401
Mohale's Hoek	148
Total	4,879

At this stage it was found that the existing staff could not cope adequately with the inspections they were called upon to undertake, and three further officers were attached to the Department. During November a standing order for two bags of

maize per week was given to each Mission in charge of a European, and this enabled the missionaries to deal with necessitous cases coming to their notice, the number of bags being increased where necessary.

Rains started falling early in November and continued right through the summer and well into the autumn. This relieved the situation considerably. Towards the end of November, in order to maintain the food supply, an issue of seed mealies was made to the nation. Each individual obtaining an issue received 30 lb. on the understanding that he would have to return a like amount on reaping his crop. One would have thought that every endeavour would have been made to sow mealies as soon as the rains started; but the planting was very slow, ploughing operations being hampered by the poor condition of the cattle which had survived the drought. A good percentage of the seed was planted, however, and a fairly good crop is assured for 1934.

Fortunately, the real mountain areas did not suffer from famine to the same extent as the lowland areas and, although complaints were received that the Department was doing nothing in the mountains, frequent reports of Sheep Inspectors, Inspectors of Schools and Supervisors revealed the fact that no relief measures were necessary.

A very encouraging aspect of this period has been the response made by relatives working on the gold mines. During 1933, £159,000 was remitted from the Rand either as deferred pay or native remittances. In addition to this it is known that a large amount was sent down through the post in the form of bank notes, post office orders and money orders. It is impossible to give the exact figure, but it is estimated that quite £100,000 came into the Territory in this way.

One matter that engaged the attention of the Administration from the first was the necessity of ensuring that a sufficient supply of maize was imported into the Territory for the needs of the Basuto. Early in August 40,000 bags were purchased by the Government on behalf of the traders from the Central Agency for Co-operative Societies, the conditions of the purchase being that they could be supplied at any time up to the end of December, but practically the whole amount had been purchased by the end of October. In the middle of October a meeting of traders was called in Maseru and on their advice a further 50,000 bags were purchased from the Central Agency. In December the position was so acute that it was decided to import a ship-load of maize from the Argentine. It was not until 30th April, 1934, that it was felt that relief measures could be suspended, and although this does not come within the period of this report, it would be as well to include it. Traders had agreed to handle this grain for famine purposes at 1s. 6d. per bag, and early in February the Argentine maize was available at most stations, and from then on was used in all cases of famine relief. The

cost of Argentine maize to the Department averaged 10s. 6d. per bag against a probable cost of 30s. per bag if the importation had not been made.

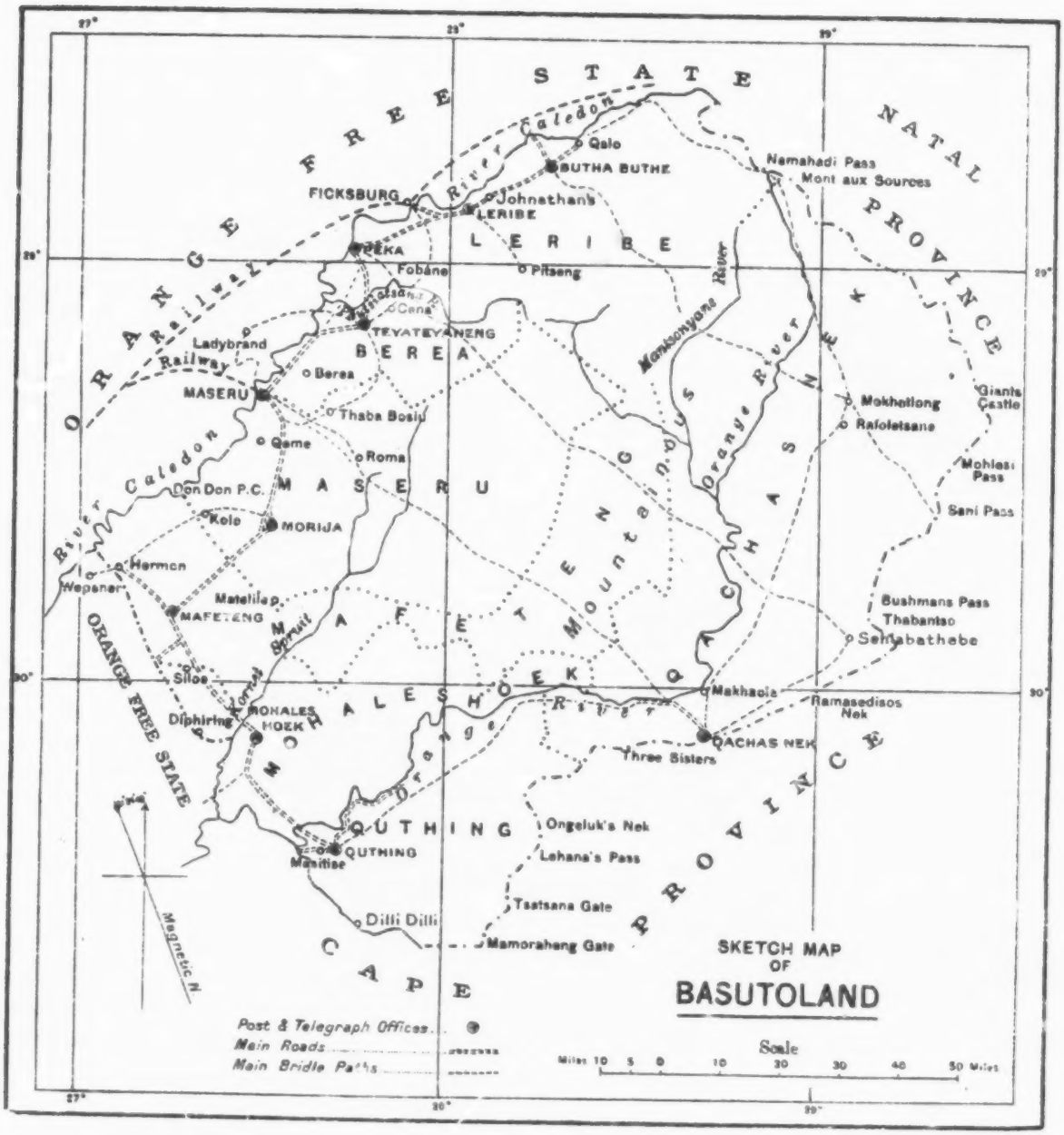
Up to the 27th of September when the whole position was reviewed and the Department created, it was estimated that some 70,000 persons had been issued with rations. The following table shows the number of persons dealt with by Famine Officers during the period 11th October, 1933, to 30th April, 1934. To this figure must be added several thousands dealt with by the Missions with their own money and with the 1,482 bags issued to them by the Government :—

District.	*Workers.*	*Non-workers and Dependents.*	*Total.*
Butha Buthe (and part of Leribe)	142	5,441	5,583
Berea	105	1,115	1,220
Maseru	540	5,846	6,386
Mafeteng ...	1,015	10,079	11,094
Mohale's Hoek.	661	6,776	7,437
Quthing ..	265	5,545	5,810
	2,728	34,802	37,530

All men sufficiently able-bodied were classed as workers and were employed in gangs on various works. They and their families were given a month's ration in advance and the worker was required to perform 26 days works before he was entitled to a further supply. After completing the 26 days it was optional for him to obtain further food and do some more work or to go home. A considerable amount of work was accomplished by relief workers, more especially during December and January when several thousands were employed on the main roads assisting the permanent road parties, which, without this additional labour, would have been in a very bad condition and practically impassable owing to the exceptionally heavy rains.

The following was the expenditure incurred in connexion with Famine Relief :—

	£
From August to 27th September, 1933 ...	12,327
Cost of feeding (which includes cost of transport by traders) from 11th October, 1933, to 30th April, 1934	27,627
Cost of organization (including allowances, motor mileage, etc.)	1,499
For tools, transport, equipment, etc.	2,418
Total	£43,871



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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BASUTOLAND FOR THE YEAR 1934

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Basutoland, which is a native Territory in South Africa, is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, and on the south by the Cape Province. Its area is 11,716 square miles. It lies between 28° 35′ and 30° 40′ South latitude and between 27° and 29° 30′ East longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 ft. to 11,000 ft. above sea-level, and the climate is, on the whole, healthy. The Maluti Mountains, which occupy most of the territory to the east, were in former years reserved for grazing purposes but, owing to the pressure in the lowlands where the bulk of the population is concentrated, this more or less inaccessible area is gradually becoming comparatively thickly populated. One result of this occupation of the mountain

area is the disappearance of big game, such as eland and hartebeest, which used to abound some 30 years ago, and the gradual elimination of the smaller buck and wild fowl.

The climate is good for Europeans and natives alike. The high altitude and pure atmosphere prove most invigorating. *Phthisis pulmonalis* is little known except among Europeans who have come to the country on account of this disease, and if they come in the early stages of the disease they improve at once. Persons suffering from malarial fever or its results are benefited greatly by a short residence in Basutoland.

The mean temperature of the air over the surface of the territory during the year 1934 was 56·66° F., and was 0·73° F. below the normal. The warmest month was January, with a mean of 64·03° F., and the coldest, July, with 44·47° F., thus giving a range in mean temperature for the year of 19·56° F.

The rainfall recorded for the year at Mafeteng observatory was 31·69 inches as against 24·07 in 1933, and 23·16 inches in 1932. The following amounts were registered elsewhere in the territory: Qacha's Nek, 41·28; Teyateyaneng, 43·83; Leribe, 49·33; Butha Buthe, 52·19 and Maseru, 44·07.

The Basuto as a nation did not come into prominence until 1818 when Moshesh, a minor chief of the Bakwena tribe in North Basutoland, gathered together the remnants of the various clans that had been scattered by the raids of the Zulu and Matebele.

The new nation went through many vicissitudes of fortune, first with the emigrant Boers of the Great Trek, and then with the British under General Cathcart in 1852. From 1856 until 1868 there were a series of wars with the Orange Free State burghers, and, being hard pressed and having lost a large portion of his country (now known as the "Conquered Territory"), Moshesh sought the protection of the British Government. This was granted and carried into effect by Sir Philip Wodehouse, the Governor of the Cape, by a Proclamation dated 12th March, 1868.

It is interesting to note that, although Moshesh asked for British protection, the Basuto were received as British subjects and not as protected subjects by the Proclamation of 1868, part of which read:—

> "Now therefore, I do hereby proclaim and declare that from and after publication hereof the said tribe of Basuto shall be taken to be British subjects, and the territory of the said tribe shall be taken to be British territory."

The country remained in a very unsettled condition until it was annexed to the Cape Colony by an Act of the Cape Legislature, No. 12 of 1871. The Act expressly declared that the territory was not to be subject to the general law of the Colony, and gave the Governor power to legislate for it by proclamation and to extend to it by proclamation any Cape Act not otherwise in force therein.

The people never took kindly to the Cape Colonial rule, and after various disturbances the Government of the Cape, in 1880, extended to Basutoland the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878, which included a clause for the general disarmament of the Basuto. They refused to accept the terms and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at under which the Act was repealed and certain fines paid by the tribe.

Although outwardly peace was restored, there still remained several chiefs who would not submit, and it was eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This was effected by Order in Council of 2nd February, 1884, which was proclaimed and brought into force by Proclamation No. 75A of 18th March, 1884. This proclamation defined the boundaries of the territory and restored it to the direct control of the Queen through Her Majesty's High Commissioner for South Africa.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The territory is now governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland, the latter possessing legislative authority, which is exercised by proclamation promulgated in the official *Gazette*. Until 1927 the Resident Commissioner was assisted by a Deputy Resident Commissioner who undertook all the judicial work of the Resident Commissioner's Court in addition to a great deal of the native political work. This post is now combined with that of Government Secretary. The Resident Commissioner is also the Treasurer, and this portion of his duties is delegated to the Financial Secretary who prepares the Estimates and the Annual Accounts. Until 1931 the office of the High Commissioner was held by the Governor-General of the Union of South Africa, but with the close of the Earl of Athlone's period of office the two posts were separated.

For administrative purposes the country is divided into seven districts under Assistant Commissioners: Maseru, Leribe (including the sub-district of Butha Buthe), Teyateyaneng, Mafeteng, Mohales Hoek, Quthing and Qacha's Nek (with the sub-district of Mokhotlong). These districts are divided into wards presided over by the hereditary chiefs and those allied to the Moshesh family, who are responsible to the Paramount Chief in all matters relative to native law and custom.

By Proclamation No. 7 of 31st March, 1910, there was established a Basutoland Council in place of the National Pitso which was previously held once every year. The Council consists of 100 members, including the Paramount Cchief as Chief Councillor, with the Resident Commissioner as President. The Resident Commissioner nominates 5 members, and the remaining 94 are nominated

by the Paramount Chief and confirmed in their appointments by the Resident Commissioner. The Council exists for the discussion of the domestic affairs of the territory.

III.—POPULATION.

No census has been taken since 1921. The following figures indicate the racial distribution of the population at that time :—

District.	*Europeans.*	*Bantu.*	*Coloured other than Bantu.*
Leribe	260	107,794	211
Berea	132	56,674	136
Maseru	612	99,378	266
Mafeteng	262	67,279	221
Mohale's Hoek ...	159	60,568	281
Quthing	115	38,051	96
Qacha's Nek	63	66,193	30
Totals	1,603	495,937	1,241

Besides the population as enumerated above, 47,141 Basuto were stated to be absent at various labour centres outside the territory when the census was taken. The present population is estimated at 570,000.

The following is a comparative statement of the density of the population (other than Europeans) at the censuses of 1904, 1911, and 1921 :—

	1904.	*1911.*	*1921.*
Number of persons per square mile ...	33·78	38·97	48·30
Number of acres per head of population ...	18·94	16·42	13·25
Number of occupied huts per square mile...	8·42	10·86	16·99
Number of persons to each occupied hut ...	4·01	3·61	2·84

There is no compulsory registration of births, deaths, or marriages according to native custom. Marriages according to Christian rites numbered 776 during the year under review, as compared with 846 during 1933 and 944 during 1932.

IV.—HEALTH.

A return of communicable diseases for the past three years is given below :—

	1932.	*1933.*	*1934.*
Influenza	1,485	676	969
Typhoid	258	265	607
Dysentery	135	90	73
Typhus	238	2,478	1,491
Whooping-cough	948	211	312
Measles	142	167	54
Smallpox	1	1	—
Scarlet fever	3	16	2
Pulmonary tuberculosis	390	318	254
Anthrax	3	4	7
Totals	3,603	4,226	3,769

The number of cases of typhus dropped from 2,478 in 1933 to 1,491, a decrease of 987. This disease was rife throughout the whole territory during the first six months of the year, but in the latter months deverminization and disinfectation depots were started in the various camps and portable apparatus was procured to attack the disease in the outlying areas, and the outbreak was got under control.

Venereal disease has not increased, but treatment by means of injections is still not fully appreciated by the Basuto.

There were 64,988 attendances at the Government dispensaries, 1,307 more than in 1933. Of these, 43,051 were first attendances and 21,937 subsequent attendances.

The total number of in-patients treated at the hospitals was 3,117 including 77 remaining in at the end of 1933. This was 340 more than last year. There were 105 patients in the hospitals at the end of 1934. Of the patients treated during 1934 the number who died was 293, an increased mortality compared with the previous year when the mortality amongst 3,777 patients was 281. In 1934, there were 112 deaths from typhus fever out of a total of 376 cases treated, whereas in 1933 there were 86 deaths out of 307 cases. This would tend to prove that typhus, the disease with the highest mortality, has been virulent during 1934 with a death-rate of 30 per cent. of hospital treated cases as against 25 per cent. in 1933.

The following table gives details of the hospital and dispensary work in each district during 1934 :—

District.	*In-Patients.*	*Out-Patients.*	*Subsequent Attendances.*	*Vaccinations.*	*Revenue.* £ *s.* *d.*
Maseru	955	7,920	7,256	—	548 12 9
Leribe	640	7,021	3,546	—	429 4 6
Mafeteng	483	8,874	4,393	364	418 4 6
Mohale's Hoek ...	447	4,852	1,615	—	221 11 3
Quthing	254	5,689	2,181	—	223 16 0
Qacha's Nek ...	300	4,253	1,934	—	158 19 6
Teyateyaneng ...	38	4,442	1,012	—	169 11 0
Total ...	3,117	43,051	21,937	364	£2,169 19 6

Leper Settlement.

The actual populaton of the Settlement on 31st December, 1934, was 728 as compared with 736 on 31st December, 1933, a decrease of 8. There were 36 fewer admissions, 2 less re-admissions, 6 more deaths, and 12 fewer discharges. As has been pointed out in previous reports, the result of the introduction of the inspectorate

system in 1929 was greatly to increase the population of the Settlement in a few years, and for about two years a large proportion of the patients found by the inspectors were in an advanced and hopeless stage of the disease. Since 1931, there has been a steady improvement in the character of the new cases found, and the number of patients admitted to the Asylum annually has fallen from 187 in 1929 to 102 in 1934.

In all the districts of Basutoland except the eastern one, Qacha's Nek, the situation is now very satisfactory. Very few certified lepers remain at large for an unreasonable length of time. The numbers being found by the inspectors are becoming smaller, and most of the cases are such that an untrained person would fail to recognize that the disease is present. Qacha's Nek continues to be the darkest spot, although even there the improvement has been considerable. Of 97 patients certified in Qacha's Nek between the beginning of 1932 and October, 1934, it was found that 18 either remained at their homes or had gone into concealment. The establishment of a village at Qacha's Nek in which patients with their families might be persuaded to go into voluntary segregation on the lines advocated almost universally by the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association is under consideration.

The following comparative table shows the number of admissions, etc. :—

	Admitted.		*Re-admitted.*		*Died.*		*Deserted.*		*Discharged.*	
	1933.	1934.	1933.	1934.	1933.	1934.	1933.	1934.	1933.	1934.
Males	65	49	21	16	38	53	16	8	23	12
Females ...	73	53	12	15	38	29	10	7	24	23
Totals ...	138	102	33	31	76	82	26	15	47	35

A detailed Annual Report on Health is published separately.

V.—HOUSING.

Basutoland is a purely native territory. There are no factories or industrial undertakings, and the problem of the proper accommodation of workers has not arisen.

The Basuto live in villages under tribal authority and their huts are, on the whole, healthy, if primitive. These huts are generally built of sods or stone, with a mud floor and a thatched roof; and the average number of persons to each hut occupied is 2·84.

The small European population consists of civil servants, missionaries and traders, and is, as a rule, well housed in buildings of cut stone or brick.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

There are no fisheries; and no mining operations are carried out in Basutoland.

Production is dealt with under two heads, Agricultural and Animal Husbandry.

Agriculture.

No land in Basutoland is cultivated by Europeans with the exception of a few fields in the vicinity of mission stations, which are used for demonstration purposes; these are held under the same system of land tenure as those of the natives. Cultivation is, in the main, carried out by individual native agriculturists who are allotted land by the chiefs. Until the crop is reaped the land is under the sole management of the individual, after which it falls back to the community for grazing. Generally, three pieces of land are given out in this way to every married man—one each for wheat, maize and sorghum. It is estimated that approximately one-fifteenth of the country is under the plough.

The chief agricultural products of the territory are maize, sorghum and wheat. Peas, beans, barley, oats, pumpkins, potatoes, and other vegetables are also grown but not to any appreciable extent. Maize and sorghum form the staple diet of the people, and consequently only a very small percentage of these commodities is exported.

The agricultural season following on the abnormal drought of 1933 was a most difficult one. The spring planting season was short owing to the late advent of the rains, and a large number of people did not start planting their crops until late in November. Owing to the death of a large percentage of the ploughing oxen and to the remainder, which had survived the drought, being in such poor condition, the natives were forced, in many instances, to plant their maize and sorghum by hand with the use of the hoe. The Government introduced a scheme whereby needy natives could obtain 30 lb. of seed maize of the White Flint type from storekeepers on the understanding that they would return the same amount at harvest. Although some of this seed was undoubtedly used as food the results of the whole scheme were most successful and did great good throughout the territory. As good crops were reaped, there was no need for famine relief measures during the winter months of 1934. About 75 per cent. of the maize seed issued was returned to Government.

The season was one of the mildest ever experienced and the growth of the crops was not finally cut short by frost until June. This was a very large factor in the general success of the harvests of all crops. The rainfall during 1934 was also very good, though starting later than usual, and the average fall throughout the

territory was 39·20 inches. Due to this and to the great reduction in the numbers of live stock as a result of the 1933 drought, the grazing generally improved out of all knowledge.

Maize.

It is estimated that some 100,000 acres of land were planted with maize and from this acreage 407,000 bags were reaped. Although a much smaller acreage than usual was planted, owing to favourable weather conditions and the late advent of the frost the yield per acre was above the average.

Sorghum.

There was far less sorghum planted than usual owing to the difficulties of cultivation and of obtaining seed. Forty thousand acres were planted and some 203,000 bags were reaped.

Wheat.

This cereal is becoming much more popular as a food amongst the Basuto and is the only comparatively safe crop that finds a ready sale which can be grown in the higher altitudes of the territory at 7,000 feet and over. The climatic conditions of Basutoland are peculiarly favourable to the growth of a " strong " wheat which is most useful for blending with other wheats when making flour. The policy of the Government is to introduce seed with the above characteristics so that in a few years the territory will be able to produce a grade of strong wheat suitable for blending with Union wheats which should find a ready market.

The wheat production per acre for 1934 showed an improvement over that for 1933. The crops in the lowlands were poor, but outstanding crops were reaped in the mountains and foot-hills. Forty-five thousand acres were sown with wheat from which approximately 153,000 bags were harvested. During the year 10,051 bags were imported, mostly for seed, and 90,000 bags were exported as against 56,000 in 1933.

The Rooi Klein Koring wheat seed imported in 1932 has not proved successful owing to rust, and its cultivation is being discontinued.

As a result of the poor harvest of 1933 there was a great scarcity of seed wheat throughout the territory and few natives were able to afford to purchase sufficient for their needs. A scheme was therefore approved whereby the Government subsidized the sale of seed to enable natives to purchase from traders at 10s. for 100 lb. of imported and 5s. for 100 lb. of local seed wheat. Some 8,000 bags were issued in this way, and from a perusal of the figures given above it will be seen that the result was most satisfactory.

Peas and beans.

These are, as a rule, grown with fair success by the Basuto. The former is one of the most productive crops in the higher altitudes, but the latter is only grown to any extent in the lowlands. Propaganda is being used to induce the natives to grow more leguminous crops both from a food point of view and as a useful crop to be grown in rotation with cereals.

The bean crop was exceptionally bad throughout the lowlands. More peas than usual were planted in the mountain and semi-mountain districts, and from some 15,000 acres approximately 50,000 bags were reaped—a large increase on previous years.

Other Crops.

Barley is grown mostly in the mountain districts as fodder, but many natives are now using the grain for bread-making. Barley is a most useful catch crop for the mountain districts, being one of the quickest and easiest to grow.

Oats are chiefly grown for forage; very little grain is marketed.

Pumpkins form quite an important item of the diet of the Basuto during the latter part of the summer and early winter, being grown among other crops and in gardens in the villages.

Potatoes.—This useful article of food is not grown to the extent it should be although, following the advice of the demonstrators and the example set by the Mission demonstration centres, the Basuto are beginning to plant many more potatoes than in the past. During the famine some wonderful crops of potatoes were seen in native gardens which were a great help to the growers.

Tobacco.—Tobacco of a coarse type is grown by many natives for their own consumption on plots near their huts. The growing of tobacco for sale is now undertaken to a limited extent.

GENERAL.

During the year under review it is estimated that some 815,000 bags of grain were grown in Basutoland, 10,000 bags of wheat, 189,000 bags of maize and 78,000 bags of sorghum were imported early in the year to cover local shortages. In a normal year the Territory produces sufficient food to meet the needs of the people.

Propaganda is being undertaken by the Agricultural Department to induce the Basuto to start small vegetable gardens near their huts and to lead water to them from nearby streams where possible. During the last few years the number of gardens has increased tremendously.

Schools in many instances have been given vegetable seed by the Government and have started quite creditable small gardens.

The importance of gardening and the growing of vegetables cannot be overestimated in a thickly populated country like Basutoland, as this method of agriculture produces more weight per acre than any other and provides a greater variety of food.

Agricultural Demonstration Work.

There are at present 24 demonstrators employed in the Territory. Agricultural education has been continued at Roma, Lerotholi Technical School, Morija, Masite and Leloaleng.

The work undertaken by all demonstrators throughout the country during the period under review was most useful and credit is due to them for the way in which they helped to increase the general food supply of the country by supervising and assisting with the planting of the Government issue of 30 lbs. of seed maize to the poor and needy natives. All demonstration implements were put at the disposal of the nation during this period.

During the seasons of the year when not employed on actual agricultural demonstration operations, the demonstrators are employed on touring their districts lecturing on gardening, donga prevention, the proper methods of cultivating and planting maize, sorghum and wheat and the selection of seed of the right type.

Agricultural Societies.

Every endeavour is being made to foster and encourage the growth and formation of agricultural societies and associations throughout the Territory, with an appreciable amount of success. A few fairly strong societies are now in operation in different parts of Basutoland, especially at Leribe, Mohales Hoek and Masite. Progress is slow as it is difficult to get the Basuto to co-operate and constant help and talks are necessary to keep them together.

SOIL EROSION.

A very grave evil to both agriculture and animal husbandry which the agricultural department of Basutoland has to combat is the erosion of the soil. Many thousands of tons of the richest soil of Basutoland are estimated to be washed away annually by the torrential summer rains, and the steady yearly increase in erosion in the lowlands and the mountain areas has caused the Administration much concern.

One of the chief factors in the increase of erosion is the steady migration of the natives from the lowlands to the mountain areas, and the consequent change in the nature of the hinterland from a purely pastoral to a semi-pastoral, semi-agricultural aspect, necessitating as it does the ploughing of the mountain slopes by the natives. The Paramount Chief has now appointed men in the

various districts to watch this, and it is hoped that discrimination in the choice of sites for ploughing will greatly alleviate the denudation which exists to-day.

The natural recovery of the veld of the country has continued to be most marked owing to the good rainfall and the great decrease in the number of stock now owned by the Basuto.

During the year, operations on an extensive scale were started by the Agricultural Department to reclaim the Qoaling valley which was becoming badly eroded by dongas and sheet erosion, and which in the course of a few years would have been entirely denuded of pasture. Up-to-date methods of combating soil erosion by means of damming up the dongas and distributing the water over the whole surface of the ground by contour furrows have been undertaken, with excellent results for the first year. Much of the bare ground has become regrassed and the existing grass has recovered and thickened out, making beautiful pasture.

Forestry.

There are no indigenous trees of any commercial value in Basutoland, the only two varieties which attain to any size being the indigenous willow and the *checke* which are chiefly used for fuel. There is no natural forest. Some sheltered kloofs and mountain slopes are still covered with the natural small bush, but this has been sadly depleted by overstocking and by cutting for fuel in the past. White poplar and weeping willow have been planted by the Basuto to a considerable extent and are most useful in the prevention of soil erosion. They are also used as fuel and as timber for hut-building.

The Basuto are encouraged to plant trees, and nurseries are maintained in all the Government camps; but, on the whole, the nation is very apathetic in this respect.

The great mortality which was taking place throughout the Territory among the exotic trees which had been planted has now ceased owing to the unhealthy ones having died and to the good rainfall in 1934 which has given a new lease of life to those remaining.

Animal Husbandry.

This department of production has, in the past, been the most important in the territory, the principal factors being sheep and goat breeding and the production of wool and mohair, and cattle raising. Horses have also played their part in the economic development of the territory. During the year the conditions for all domesticated animals have, on the whole, been very fair owing to the abundance of grazing as a result of the diminution in numbers, and to the favourable climatic conditions.

Sheep and Goats.—A campaign by the Veterinary Department against scab carried on over a period of nine years, during which 202 dipping tanks were erected, was brought to a successful end in 1932 when scab was practically eradicated. Since then the satisfactory state of affairs has been maintained by constant inspection and regular dipping. During the year under review 2,218,648 table inspections and 10,738,414 field examinations were made.

The drought of 1933 culminated in an abnormally wet summer and as a result internal parasites heavily attacked the young sheep and goats, causing serious losses. One of these parasites, the nodular worm, is a recent invader probably introduced by infected sheep from outside sources. These internal parasites are being dealt with by dosing but it is an expensive business and many of the flock owners cannot afford to purchase remedies or are apathetic.

A scheme for the purchase and issue of good breeding Merino rams has been approved. The Veterinary Department have castrated hundreds of crossbred rams and this with the introduction of new breeding stock should have a marked effect on the quality of Basutoland wool.

The country, with its excellent pasturage and climate, is capable of producing high grade wool and mohair provided progressive methods are employed. The market for mohair still lacks stability and consequently there seems to be little encouragement for the producer. It is therefore particularly desirable to encourage the production of good merino wool.

A census taken at the end of 1934 shows an increase of some 200,000 sheep and 13,000 goats making a total number of 1,673,800 sheep and 544,850 goats in the territory. As the result of the good prices obtaining for wool and mohair during 1933, all the stocks which had been held back year after year were disposed of, and the statistics show that only some 6,685,000 lb. were exported during 1934. This large reduction in the export of this commodity considerably reduced the spending power of the Basuto.

Cattle.—Very few slaughter cattle are produced in the territory but there is a good trade in draught oxen with the Union, the Basuto ox being much sought after, as it is small and hardy.

With the object of eliminating undesirable bulls and thereby improving the type of cattle produced, the Veterinary staff castrated many bulls during the year. The country is eminently favourable for cattle and there is practically no menace from disease although occasional cases of anthrax occur. No census of cattle has been taken since 1921 but the number of cattle at the end of 1933 was estimated at 400,000.

Horses, mules and donkeys.—It is estimated that there are 75,350 horses in the territory at the present time. Owing to the territory having been depleted of its best animals for remount purposes during the South African war the famous breed of sturdy,

hardy, Basuto ponies has deteriorated and efforts to improve matters by the provision of a stud of thoroughbred stallions have not been altogether successful, although they have left their mark. Government is now considering the introduction of Arab blood, but in addition it will be necessary to educate the horsemasters with regard to selection and the care of the young horses. These are often ridden when too young thus retarding their growth. The country is eminently suited for breeding horses but at present the supply is not equal to the local demand and horses are being imported from the Union.

During the year one of the thoroughbred stud horses died as the result of an accident, leaving one horse to do service. Forty-nine mares were served; of these 34 are owned by natives of the territory and 15 by Europeans. It is proposed in the near future to introduce Arab stallions from Nigeria in the hope that by this infusion of new blood the original sturdy built, sure-footed, hardy animal will be reproduced in our future Basuto pony.

Mules.—An attempt is to be made to breed mules by importing Catalonian jacks. Mules are of considerable economic importance to the territory not only for ploughing and transport purposes but as pack animals, for which purposes they are vastly superior to the horse. At present there are approximately 1,100 mules, most of them having been imported from the Union.

Donkeys.—It is estimated that there are approximately 15,000 donkeys in the territory to-day. The breeding of these animals is not encouraged owing to the damage they do to the pasture, and further importations are prohibited by legislation.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The following is a comparative statement of the imports and exports by general traders during the last three years :—

Imports.

Description.	*1931*		*1932*		*1933*		*1934*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£		£		£
Merchandise	—	389,237	—	404,041	—	362,986	—	405,859
Live Stock :—	*No.*		*No.*		*No.*		*No.*	
Horses, Mules, etc.	12	70	16	67	40	98	6	18
Cattle	436	996	349	793	1,264	1,691	157	354
Sheep and Goats	344	144	838	275	783	210	24	21
Grain :—	*Bags.*		*Bags.*		*Bags.*		*Bags.*	
Wheat and Wheat Meal	4,917	7,529	3,894	6,386	8,675	10,381	10,051	14,770
Maize and Maize Meal	139,901	63,302	95,718	41,880	356,158	217,007	138,779	97,105
Sorghum	1,374	1,015	1,983	1,291	25,018	17,028	78,051	47,956
Other Produce	—	440	—	378	—	1,709	—	684
Total Imports ...	—	£462,733	—	£455,111	—	£611,110	—	£566,767

Exports.

Live Stock :—	*No.*	£	*No.*	£	*No.*	£	*No.*	£
Horses, Mules, etc.	178	717	308	1,218	52	144	191	844
Cattle	8,337	27,616	5,668	15,947	17,491	41,665	17,173	53,574
Sheep and Goats	2,420	497	1,456	293	3,831	1,423	2,971	1,542
Grain :—	*Bags.*		*Bags.*		*Bags.*		*Bags.*	
Wheat and Wheat Meal	103,706	90,888	196,873	168,015	55,822	45,102	89,545	88,919
Maize and Maize Meal	295	168	1,908	765	107	71	1,675	1,048
Sorghum	10,247	6,821	6,500	3,461	1,561	806	73	54
Barley	89	22	97	38	91	36	275	146
Beans and Peas	4,119	2,214	3,845	1,805	603	361	262	273
Wool and Mohair :—	*lb.*		*lb.*		*lb.*		*lb.*	
Wool	9,325,140	98,304	11,832,391	105,435	9,864,043	196,146	5,093,858	118,744
Mohair	1,241,743	21,442	1,033,863	10,136	1,926,180	26,697	702,018	12,602
Hides and Skins :—								
Skins	119,619	679	43,778	203	167,615	1,577	180,757	1,850
Hides	186,015	2,013	102,730	770	1,193,759	15,551	352,524	4,755
Miscellaneous	—	45	—	192	—	578	—	171
Total Exports ...	—	£251,426	—	£308,278	—	£330,157	—	£284,522

Other Statistics.

(1) Government imports			£62,550
			Number.
(2) Sheep and goats exported			12,046
(3) Sheep and goats imported			4,488
(4) Cattle exported			31,967
Cattle imported			7,887
		lbs.	*lbs.*
(5) Wool exported by traders ...		5,093,858	
Wool exported by hawkers and individuals		863,939	
Total wool exported ...		... ...	5,957,797
Mohair exported by traders ...		702,018	
Mohair exported by hawkers and individuals		25,710	
Total mohair exported ...		... ...	727,728
Total wool and mohair ...		... ...	6,685,525

All exports are made to the Union of South Africa, and imports are as a general rule made through the same channel. The past few years have been characterized by the low prices obtaining for wool and mohair, the staple products of the territory, on the value of which the main purchasing power of the native depends. An improvement was shown towards the end of the year, when the ruling price for the spring clip was 6d. per lb. Until normal times prevail again there is little prospect of further development of trade with Great Britain. The principal articles of United Kingdom manufacture for which there exists definite possibilities of further development in trade are blankets, native trade goods, and agricultural implements (including steam or motor driven machinery). The blanket factory, started some years ago in Harrismith, in the Orange Free State, takes an increasingly large portion of the blanket trade which was formerly given to manufacturers in the United Kingdom.

It is unfortunate that British motor-cars continue to be unable to compete successfully with United States makes in this territory. Out of a total of 426 private cars and taxis registered in Basutoland during 1934, 388 were American and 35 of British make. Of the new cars introduced into Basutoland during the year, 86 were American and 19 were British. The British commercial vehicle has not made the progress hoped for, and of a total of 144 commercial vehicles registered in 1934 only 10 were of British make, the balance being American.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

There are no factories or industrial undertakings in the territory, and there is only one mile of railway, which is owned and operated by the South African Railways Administration.

Salaries and wages earned by Europeans vary from £200 to £850 per annum in the case of Government Servants and from £120 to £500 per annum in the case of employees of trading concerns.

Native wages vary from £24 to £204 per annum in the case of Government employees; and from £15 to £48 per annum in the case of store boys, etc., employed by traders.

The average cost of living for single natives is estimated at £1 *per mensem*, and for married natives £3 *per mensem*. The cost of living of Europeans varies considerably and is in a great measure dependent on the social or official position of the person concerned.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education in Basutoland is mainly in the hands of three Missions, the Paris Evangelical Mission Society, the Roman Catholic Mission, and the English Church Mission, who receive grants-in-aid from the Government. These mission schools are scattered over the country according to the density of the population, and there are very few children who are not within reach of a school.

The educational system of Basutoland is intended primarily to serve the interests of the vast majority of the pupils, many of whom leave school after attending for three or four years only. To this end the education in the lower classes is almost entirely in the vernacular so that the child becomes literate in his own language and is not taken out of his environment. The country is unfortunately not well suited to the teaching of indigenous arts and crafts owing to the lack of material, but wherever possible sewing is encouraged amongst the girls, and gardening or other manual work amongst the boys.

There are 553 aided elementary schools, teaching mainly through the vernacular, although English is started in the upper classes. In addition to these there are 217 unaided primary schools where the teaching is similar to that given in the aided schools. Primary intermediate instruction is given in 40 schools, of which three are Government schools, managed by committees, while the rest are under Mission control. Finally there are nine institutions which give specialized training, e.g., academic, normal, industrial or agricultural. The total roll in Government and Government-aided schools during 1934 was 60,563, and in the unaided registered schools was 11,201.

Apart from the three intermediate schools, the only other Government school is the Lerotholi Technical School at Maseru which is under its own Director.

The estimated expenditure from the Native Education Fund for 1934-35 was £41,800.

No fees are charged in elementary or intermediate schools nor is attendance compulsory. Home duties and herding interfere with school work and regular attendance, but on the whole Basuto children show wonderful keenness in attending school. A written examination for Standard VI is open to pupils from all parts of the country. Six bursaries are awarded each year, so that children of exceptional ability can continue their education at one of the institutions. University education is provided at the South African Native College at Fort Hare in the Union of South Africa to which the Administration contributes £300 per annum besides providing an annual bursary for a promising Mosuto student. Thus it is possible for a child to proceed from his village school to the South African Native College.

The three Missions which are concerned with educational work do a great deal to promote social welfare. Every station is a centre of light and civilization and, with the various branches radiating from it, helps to bring all parts of the country within reach of missionary influence.

Recreation is encouraged in every school but owing to the scattered nature of the population and the domestic work required of the children it is difficult to arrange regular competitions. At certain Government Stations and Missions in the lowlands, however, sports meetings have been held and have aroused much enthusiasm. At all the Government Stations sports clubs have been formed, football, tennis, and cricket being the popular games.

Pathfinder and Wayfarer bodies have been started in several centres with, as far as it is possible to say in so short a time, every prospect of success.

At most mission centres annual singing competitions are held and are very popular with students, teachers, and the general public alike.

A detailed Annual Report on education is published separately.

European Education.—There are several small schools in the territory, managed by local committees and supported by the Government; these provide elementary education for the children at District Headquarters. For education beyond the elementary stage children are sent to schools in the Union. The Government provides annually one bursary (for children under thirteen years of age) of £25 for two years; and for some time past now, through the generosity of a trading firm, another bursary of £50 per annum for two years (also for children under thirteen years) has been instituted.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Railways.

The territory is linked with the railway system of the Union of South Africa by a short branch line from Maseru to Marseilles on the Bloemfontein-Natal main line. One mile of this line is in Basutoland. The South African Railway runs near the boundaries of the territory and goods are transported by road to the nearest railway station across the border.

Roads and Bridle Paths.

The greater part of Basutoland is exceptionally mountainous and in this area all transport is effected by the use of pack animals. A few of the main bridle paths are maintained by the Government.

On the western side of Basutoland where there is a strip of agricultural country stretching from north to south, a fairly good road system has been developed. The main roads traverse the whole of this area with branches leading west to the principal points of exit. In nearly all cases the roads are gravelled and carry motor and ox-waggon traffic in all weather. There are, however, a number of unbridged rivers and streams which during flood periods often delay travelling for some hours.

From the main roads a number of feeder roads lead towards the interior. By-roads to trading centres and missions connect with these feeder roads, penetrating still further into the interior, but although several roads now cross the first range of mountains none has yet reached the second range. Feeder roads are maintained by the Government but are not of a high standard. During the year under review a few additional culverts have been constructed on them, and as funds are available further improvements will be carried out.

The by-roads are in many instances unsuitable for any type of traffic except ox-waggons. They are maintained by traders and others to whose station they lead, assisted by annual Government grants.

On the eastern side of Basutoland in the Qacha's Nek district a short system of roads similar to that described above exists, and the standard reached is much the same as that obtaining on the western side of the territory.

Following a long period of drought, heavy rain fell in November and December, 1933, and during the first four months of 1934. The January rainfall for many districts exceeded eleven inches and as this included several storms of great severity serious damage was done to the roads. Their weakest feature proved to be the drifts which in most cases were protected by dry stone walls constructed many years ago. A considerable number of these crossings were totally destroyed while many others were badly damaged.

The principal feature of the work carried out during the year has in consequence been the construction wherever possible of substantial stone crossings set in cement mortar.

From November, 1933, to the end of April, 1934, as a famine relief measure a considerable number of natives were engaged on road work and were of great value in enabling the roads to be kept open during the heavy rains.

Other important improvements were carried out with the assistance of Famine Relief workers during 1934 as follows:—The ferry over the Orange River at Seaka was removed to a new site about two miles upstream where the conditions are more favourable than at the original site. An important road deviation eliminating excessive grades at Bolahla Hill in the Qacha's Nek district was made and a concrete causeway with under-flow pipes was constructed over the Little Caledon River near Thaba Bosiu.

The funds allocated during the last three years for the maintenance of roads, bridges and ferries, of which 98 per cent. is used for roads, are given below:—

	£
1932	13,500
1933	14,000
1934	16,760

The following is a classification of the class and mileage of roads in the territory:—

Gravel—320 miles main road and 62 miles feeder road.

Earth—40 miles main road, and 70 miles feeder road.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks within the territory; but the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, has a branch office at Maseru.

A change in connexion with currency in Basutoland was effected during 1933 by Proclamation No. 2 of 1933, which made notes of the South African Reserve Bank legal tender for all purposes. The issue by the Standard Bank of gold coin was suspended as from 28th December, 1932; and as a result of the Reserve Bank having been relieved of its obligation to redeem its notes in gold and the consequent increase in the price of gold, the Administration, in order to protect the natives of the territory, arranged to buy gold coin at the bank rates of exchange at all district offices.

The weights and measures in common use in the territory are the British Imperial.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Owing to the continued financial stringency the activities of the Public Works Department were again curtailed during 1934.

The main work done by the Department during the year was the maintenance of Government buildings and water schemes throughout the territory. These have all been kept in as good repair as the funds available allowed. This is additional to the road work dealt with in Chapter X.

At the Lerotholi Technical School, Maseru, a good stone building for use as a sick room has been erected entirely by the pupils. The building is a great credit to the school.

XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE.

Justice.

The laws in force in Basutoland include those of the Cape of Good Hope up to 18th March, 1884, except where repealed or altered by Proclamation of the High Commissioner, who is empowered to make by proclamation such laws as may be necessary for the peace, order, and good government of the territory.

The Basutoland Courts of Law consist of :—

(a) *The Resident Commissioner's Court*, which constitutes the Supreme Court of Basutoland, and from which an appeal lies to the Privy Council. Under Proclamation No. 10 of 1928, as amended, the constitution of the Resident Commissioner's Court was altered, and provision made for the appointment of a judicial commissioner. The Court is now constituted by the Resident Commissioner or, when deputed by him thereto, the Deputy Resident Commissioner or the Judicial Commissioner sitting alone or together; and there may be associated with the Court not more than two officers of the Administration, appointed by the Resident Commissioner for the purpose by notice in the *Gazette*. The Resident Commissioner when present and, in his absence, the Judicial Commissioner is President of the Court, and the judgment of the Court is the judgment pronounced or approved by the President.

The power conferred on the Resident Commissioner to review and correct the proceedings of Courts or officers may be exercised also by the Judicial Commissioner, and any decision recorded or action taken by the Judicial Commissioner in the course of such review or correction is of the same force and effect as if it had been recorded or taken by the Resident Commissioner. During 1934, Sir Cecil Fforde was appointed as Judicial Commissioner for Basutoland.

(b) *Courts of Assistant Commissioners*, who are empowered to impose sentences not exceeding two years' imprisonment with hard labour or fines not exceeding £50, with jurisdiction in civil cases up to £500. These Courts have no jurisdiction to try, as Courts of the first instance, any person charged with treason, murder, attempt to murder, culpable homicide, rape, attempt to commit rape, or sedition.

These Courts are situated in each of the seven districts and in the sub-district of Butha Buthe. Police Officers have been given jurisdiction in the Courts of Assistant Commissioners to try minor offences, with power to impose sentences not exceeding six months' imprisonment with hard labour and fines not exceeding £10. A detached Court is also held in the sub-district of Mokhotlong, presided over by a Police Officer exercising minor jurisdiction.

(c) *Chiefs' Courts.*—Under Proclamation No. 2B of 1884 the Paramount Chief and other native chiefs of Basutoland were authorised to continue to exercise jurisdiction according to Native law and custom in civil and criminal cases within such limits as may be defined by any rules established by the authority of the Resident Commissioner, subject to a proviso that no suit, action or proceeding whatsoever to which any European shall be party, either as plaintiff or complainant, or as defendant, shall be adjudicated upon by any such chief, save by the consent of all parties concerned. An appeal lies from the decision of any chief to the Court of the Assistant Commissioner of the district within which such chief exercises jurisdiction.

The following table shows the number of convictions for various crimes and offences during the last five years :—

Nature of Crime.	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*
In Magisterial Courts—					
Offences against the person	219	190	351	95	147
Offences against property	282	299	373	558	594
Offences against liquor laws ...	47	41	20	6	12
Other crimes	1,968	2,406	2,729	1,778	1,327
In Resident Commissioner's Court—					
Murder	10	11	10	6	11
Culpable homicide	23	14	62	68	145
Attempted murder	—	3	5	4	3
Rape	2	9	6	5	1
Other offences against the person ...	6	9	1	6	7
Offences against property with violence to the person.	52	50	214	94	56
Other offences against property ...	31	17	33	45	62
Other crimes	—	1	1	3	2

Police.

Constitution and Command.—The Basutoland Mounted Police is maintained under Proclamation No. 12 of 1921. The Force is

under the control of the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland, who is the Commandant, with a Staff Officer who is resident in Maseru.

After being closed down for three years the police training depot was re-opened in May. Seventy-one men were put through the usual training; 54 of these were recruits, some enrolled in the past year and who had never had any training, and recently joined men. Seventeen men were sent in from the various detachments for a refresher course. There being no European drill instructor available, the depot work was carried out by the native sergeant-major and native sergeant-instructor under the supervision of the Staff Officer.

The Finger Print branch of the Police department has again been greatly handicapped through the Officer in Charge being seconded for other duties. Valuable work has, however, been performed in supplying the Courts and the Union Government with previous criminal history of accused persons whose finger impressions have been submitted for identification. No field work, however, was able to be undertaken. During the year, 1,714 impressions were received for search, being an increase of 164 compared with the previous year. The Bureau has in addition undertaken for record purposes the search of finger impression of all deportees and native candidates for employment in other departments of the Service.

Establishment.—The establishment of the Force on 31st December, 1934, was as follows:—

Europeans.		*Native Police.*	
Staff Officer	1	Sergeant-Major ...	1
Inspectors	5	Sergeants	14
Sub-Inspectors ...	6	Corporals	15
Warrant Officer ...	1	Privates	260
	—	Saddlers	2
Total	13		—
	—	Total ...	292

Of the European establishment, two Inspectors were acting as Assistant Commissioners for nine and six months respectively during the year; one Sub-Inspector was seconded for the whole period as clerk to the Assistant Commissioner, Mohales Hoek; and one as the Basutoland Government Representative in Johannesburg. The Chief Constable was employed as district Police Officer with the rank of Acting Sub-Inspector.

Distribution and Strength.—Mounted detachments of the Force are stationed at Maseru and in the various districts of the territory, under the command of European officers of the establishment who are responsible for the general police routine being carried out within their districts and for the efficiency of their respective

detachments. The following table shows the distribution of the strength as at 31st December, 1934 :—

Station.	*Officers.*	*Warrant Officers.*	*Non-Commissioned Officers.*	*Men.*
Butha Buthe ...	1	—	3	25
Leribe	1	—	5	26
Teyateyaneng ...	1	—	2	19
Maseru	2	—	3	38
Depot	1	1	2	1
Mafeteng	1	—	4	26
Mohales Hoek ...	2	—	2	27
Quthing	1	—	3	37
Qacha's Nek ...	1	—	4	44
Mokhotlong	1	—	2	17
Total ...	12	1	30	260

The conduct and health of the police have been uniformly good throughout the year. There was only one dismissal during the year, and three discharges on medical grounds, seven deaths, six retirements and two discharges on account of unsuitability.

Crime.—During the year, 971 deportees were accepted from the Union after their claims to Basutoland birth had been established. This is an increase of 115 persons as compared with last year, and in most cases their absence from the territory had been upwards of fifteen years and their records were bad. This influx of criminals into the territory has already had a marked effect on the increase in crimes of storebreaking and theft.

During the year, 9,923 patrols were sent out, and the mileage covered was 200,800. This shows an increase of 1,944 patrols in the corresponding figures for the previous year, which may be accounted for by the fact that more men were employed on additional extraneous duties, and night patrols in the camps were considerably strengthened.

During 1934 2,810 cases were reported and dealt with by the police (18 cases awaiting trial at the end of the previous year are included). They were disposed of as follows :—1,806 cases were brought before the Assistant Commissioners' Courts, 101 were handed to the Native Courts, 125 were under investigation and 53 awaiting trial at the 31st December, 1934, and 725 cases were thrown out for want of evidence.

Apart from the ordinary police routine, members of the Force were called upon to perform extraneous duties in assisting in the collection of hut tax and of wool export duty, in providing prison guards, clerical assistance in various district offices, and services in the Medical and Veterinary Departments.

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Prisons.

There are gaols at the headquarters of each of the seven districts into which the territory is divided and in the sub-districts of Butha Buthe and Mokhotlong.

Buildings.—All gaol buildings are of stone with iron roofs and cement floors; the inmates are supplied with bed-boards on which to sleep. The majority of cells are built to contain on the average eight to ten prisoners, but there are usually one or two smaller ones for violent or dangerous inmates, or for occasional European convicts. Attached to each prison is an exercise yard and cement baths with water laid on. The cook-house is in the yard, and a daily scale of ration as laid down by statute is provided. As no special accommodation exists in the district gaols for female or European prisoners, they are invariably transferred to Maseru.

Health.—The health of the prisoners during 1934 has, on the whole, been good, the daily average on the sick list being 32. Fourteen deaths and one execution were recorded during the year. All prisoners are medically examined on admission, and the Medical Officers make regular visits to the gaols, apart from the weekly inspection when they accompany the district administrative officer in charge. Prisoners reporting sick are taken to the Government dispensary, and if necessary are admitted to hospital where they are put into the ordinary public wards and treated on similar lines to other patients.

Discipline.—During 1934 there have not been so many breaches of prison discipline and escapes of prisoners as there were in 1933, the numbers for the last three years being 19, 34 and 16 respectively; and on the whole the conduct of the prisoners has been good. Until 1929 the large majority of convicts were stock thieves, persons committed for public violence in connexion with land disputes and a large percentage of persons convicted for offences against the revenue laws. For the most part they were not the habitual criminal type, and gaol discipline was therefore more or less easy to maintain. Unfortunately, since then, there has been an influx of the more criminal type owing to the deportation of bad characters from the Union, and their influence has already made itself felt in the gaols throughout the territory to the detriment of discipline.

Labour.—During the year under review the policy commenced in 1931 of utilizing convicts to a greater extent on road construction and maintenance in the vicinity of the various camps has been maintained. But, as a general rule, where possible they are trained to become useful members of society on release, by instruction in such trades as masonry, carpentry, building and other kinds of manual labour.

Sentences.—The majority of offenders are given the option of a fine or imprisonment with hard labour. Provision has been made

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under Proclamation No. 55 of 1921 for the punishment of offenders in certain cases under which the Court may in its discretion—

(*a*) postpone for a period not exceeding six months the passing of sentence, and release the offender on one or more conditions; or

(*b*) pass sentence but order the operation of the sentence to be suspended for a period not exceeding three years on such conditions as the Court may specify in the order; or

(*c*) pass sentence of a fine or, in default of payment, imprisonment, but suspend the issue of a warrant for committing the offender to a gaol in default of payment until the expiry of such period not exceeding twelve months as the Court may fix for payment, in instalments or otherwise, of the amount of the fine or until default has been made.

Suspended sentences are invariably awarded in cases of default of payment of tax and similar offences against the revenue laws.

Good conduct remission up to one-fourth of the sentence is allowed on all sentences of imprisonment for six months or more.

Statistics.—During the year under review, 3,004 persons passed through the various gaols in the territory, and of these 1,977 were committed to penal imprisonment. The corresponding figures for 1933 were 3,210 and 2,044 respectively.

Juvenile Offenders.—It has been the practice for several years to transfer all juvenile prisoners of from 15 to 20 years of age, whose sentences were over three months, to serve their sentences at the Peka gaol in order to prevent contact as far as possible with adult offenders. When the European officer was removed from Peka during 1933, however, the post was practically closed down and all juveniles were transferred to Leribe where they are kept segregated from adult prisoners so far as possible. The daily average number of juveniles in prison during 1934 was 46.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following is the more important legislation issued during 1934 by proclamation in the *Gazette*:—

(1) No. 16.—Consolidating and amending the rules and regulations concerning the granting of pensions and of superannuation and other allowances to persons employed in the Basutoland Government Service.

(2) No. 19.—Amending the law relating to customs in Basutoland.

(3) No. 22.—Further amending Proclamation No. 16 of 1907 relating to Stamp Duties and Fees on documents by means of stamps in Basutoland.

(4) No. 28.—Entitled the Basutoland Medical, Dental and Pharmacy (Further Amendment) Proclamation, 1934.

(5) No. 30.—Amending further the Customs Tariff and Excise Duties (Amendment) Proclamation, 1925, of Basutoland as amended.

(6) No. 33.—Amending the law relating to the introduction into or sale or disposal in Basutoland of firearms, cartridges, gunpowder or other explosives.

(7) No. 55.—Further amending Proclamation No. 16 of 1907 relating to stamp duties and fees on documents payable by means of stamps in Basutoland.

(8) No. 64.—Entitled the Evidence (United Kingdom, Foreign, Dominion and Colonial Documents) (Basutoland) Proclamation, 1934.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure for the past five financial years :—

REVENUE.

Head.	*1929–30*	*1930–31*	*1931–32*	*1932–33*	*1933–34*
	£	£	£	£	£
Native Tax	136,237	125,665	116,783	121,795	90,017
Customs and Excise	95,564	77,810	80,842	86,161	90,040
Posts and Telegraphs	9,377	8,883	9,964	9,172	12,906
Licences	9,141	8,068	7,821	7,855	8,466
Fees of Court or Office	1,083	810	1,042	810	773
Judicial Fines	2,039	1,445	976	783	424
Income Tax	10,732	5,929	3,957	4,040	4,115
Poll Tax	—	—	—	—	1,265
Fees for Service Rendered ...	1,387	1,105	1,165	1,020	1,023
Interest	5,101	4,033	3,997	2,473	1,963
Wool Export Duty	32,187	25,433	19,265	678	8,107
Miscellaneous	8,943	8,654	8,040	22,094	12,155
Education Levy	14,885	13,963	13,017	13,853	10,340
Civil Servants, Salary Deductions	—	—	—	4,676	4,550
Totals	£326,676	£281,801	£266,869	£275,410	£246,144

EXPENDITURE.

Head.	*1929–30*	*1930–31*	*1931–32*	*1932–33*	*1933–34*
	£	£	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner	12,724	12,783	12,789	13,280	13,163
District Administration ...	14,926	15,333	15,121	15,596	16,157
Police	38,678	37,600	35,455	33,908	33,386
Administration of Justice ...	12,087	13,306	13,255	10,683	13,923
Posts and Telegraphs	13,494	12,004	11,027	14,065	10,949
Public Works Department ...	5,276	5,322	5,761	5,136	5,308
Public Works Extraordinary ...	3,597	5,168	345	39	493
Public Works Recurrent ...	30,521	29,774	20,516	17,949	20,645
Medical	26,832	28,202	25,394	24,507	25,712
Education	57,105	53,235	49,734	51,587	39,352
Lerotholi Technical School ...	6,674	5,772	5,541	5,195	5,515
Agriculture—					
Veterinary	37,104	39,140	23,630	12,799	12,598
Agricultural	5,811	6,849	5,751	7,184	7,351
Allowances to Chiefs	14,260	13,754	11,628	11,472	11,145
National Council	1,777	1,634	1,613	1,786	736
Leper Settlement	20,077	21,501	20,317	19,820	19,671
Pensions	14,291	12,726	11,242	11,760	14,562
Miscellaneous	8,468	7,225	6,758	6,243	40,910
Capital Expenditure	10,060	1,090	4,312	585	538
Totals	£333,862	£322,418	£280,189	£263,624	£292,114

Debt.

The Basutoland Administration has no Public Debt, but its liabilities in connexion with the "Guardian's Fund" and the "Native Education Fund" were at 31st March, 1934, £11,171 and £4,021 respectively.

Assets and Liabilities.

The following is a statement of the assets and liabilities at 31st March, 1934:—

Assets.	£	s.	d.	*Liabilities.*	£	s.	d.
On Deposit with the Crown Agents, London	6,500	0	0	Reserved Surplus (Fixed in terms of High Commissioner's telegram dated 15th March, 1929)	70,000	0	0
Balances in the hands of Sub-Accountants ...	12,563	16	8	Crown Agents, London, Current Account	16	12	2
Advances recoverable	32,460	19	5	Guardian's Fixed Deposit	11,171	12	0
Basutoland Education Fund ...	4,021	9	4	Sub-Accountants' Suspense	4,202	9	4
Bloemfontein Board of Executors and Trust Company, Ltd.	1,106	0	11	Stores Imprest ...	13,485	19	11
On Loan to Swaziland Administration ...	37,000	0	0	Wool and Mohair Fund	2,296	0	4
Stores Suspense ...	8,230	11	0	Standard Bank of South Africa, Ltd.	34,684	3	8
				South African Railways and Harbours	2,262	4	8
				Deposits	95	17	9
	101,882	17	4				
Balance of Liabilities in excess of Assets	36,332	2	6				
	£138,214	19	10		£138,214	19	10

Description of Main Heads of Taxation.

Native Tax.—The collection under this head for the year ended 31st March, 1934, was £90,017. Fuller details as regards the method of collection, etc., are given on page 31.

Customs and Excise.—Under the Customs Agreement entered into with the Union of South Africa in 1910, the Basutoland Administration receives annually 0·88575 per cent. of the total Customs revenue of the Union, less payments to Northern and Southern Rhodesia and South-West Africa. The amount received for the twelve months ended 31st March, 1934, was £88,375.

In addition to the above, a duty is levied on importations of Union manufactured spirits and beer into Basutoland, and the amount received in this connexion for the above period was £1,666, making

the total Customs revenue for the territory, £90,041. The rates of duty on spirits and beer are governed by Part III of the Schedule to Proclamation No. 64 of 1921.

Licences.—Trades and businesses are subject to annual licences in terms of the Schedule to Proclamation No. 28 of 1928, which consolidated and amended the laws relating to the carrying on of business in Basutoland. A duty at the rate of ¼ per cent. is charged upon the purchase consideration in the case of the transfer of a General Trader's Licence. Labour Agents' and Motor Vehicle Registration Licences are governed by Proclamations Nos. 27 of 1907, and 7 of 1926, respectively. Assistant Commissioners are responsible for the collection of all licence fees in their districts.

The following table gives the chief classes of licences and the amount collected in respect of each for the past two years :—

	1933.	*1934.*
	£	£
General Traders	4,775	4,638
Hawkers	349	558
Labour Agents	294	307
Commercial Travellers	479	500
Labour Runners	51	40
Miscellaneous	709	951
Motor Registration	1,148	1,397
Motor Drivers	30	40
Transfer Fees	20	35
Totals	£7,855	£.8466

Income Tax.—The collection of income tax is governed by the Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation No. 52 of 1920, as amended. The general provisions of the principal Proclamation apply each year to the determination of the taxable amount on which the tax is to be levied and the collection of the amount payable in respect of that taxable amount, but the actual rates to be levied are fixed by Proclamation each year.

The taxes imposed for the year 1933 were : (i) Normal Tax, (ii) Super Tax ; and the rates were fixed as follows :—

(i) Normal Tax :—

(*a*) In the case of companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, two shillings and sixpence.

(*b*) In the case of persons other than companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, one shilling and as many two-thousandths of a penny as there are pounds in that amount, subject to a maximum rate of two shillings in every pound.

(ii) Super Tax :—

(*a*) When the amount subject to super tax does not exceed twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, one shilling and as many five-hundredths of a penny as there are pounds in that amount.

(*b*) When the amount subject to super tax exceeds twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, five shillings.

The amount collected for the income-tax year ended 30th June, 1933, was as follows :—

	£
Arrear Tax	140
Current Tax	3,975
Total	4,115

The following table shows the sources from which taxable incomes were derived and the amount of tax paid from each source, and also compares the collection with the previous year :—

Source.	*1932-33*	*1933-34*	*+ or –*
	£	£	£
General traders ...	736	837	+ 101
Civil Servants ...	1,477	1,557	+ 80
Employed persons	525	565	+ 40
Others	436	560	+ 123
Non-residents ...	617	596	– 21
Totals ...	£3,791	£4,115	+ £323

The number of incomes for current tax and the total amounts of taxable incomes in the various categories were :—

Number.	*Category.*	*Taxable Income.*
	£	£
53	500 and under	22,743
44	501 to 750	27,565
30	751 to 1,000	26,233
17	1,001 to 1,500	21,549
5	1,501 to 2,000	9,121
8	2,001 and over	22,417
157		£129,628

Wool Export Duty.—The imposition and the collection of the duty on wool and mohair exported from the territory are governed by the Wool and Mohair Export Duty Proclamation No. 14 of 1923,

as amended. This duty was originally imposed to help to defray the expenses of the campaign against scab in sheep and goats, which was at that time rife throughout Basutoland.

The duty was suspended as from 1st April, 1932, and re-imposed as from the 15th March, 1933, at the rate of 2d. for every 12½ lb. weight. The total receipts for the year amounted to £8,107.

Education Levy.—In accordance with Proclamation No. 13 of 1927, every adult native male domiciled in Basutoland has to pay a levy of three shillings per annum, and the total collected each year is credited to a special fund known as the "Basutoland Native Education Fund", and is devoted solely to purposes of native education. For purposes of convenience this levy is collected in conjunction with the tax, and both are embodied in one receipt which is superscribed "Native Tax £1 5s.; Education Levy 3s."

Customs Tariff.

In accordance with the Customs Agreement entered into with the Union Government in 1910, Basutoland maintains a Customs tariff similar to that which exists in the Union of South Africa.

Excise and Stamp Duties.

Stamp duties are imposed in terms of Proclamation No. 16 of 1907, as amended, and are mostly chargeable in respect of the following instruments, acts, etc., arbitration and awards, bills of exchange, bonds, courts of law, acts and deeds of donations, leases, transfers, and in respect of duties performed by the Master of Court.

Native Tax.

This tax is imposed by the Basutoland Native Tax Proclamation, 1911. Every adult male native domiciled in Basutoland is liable for the payment of a tax at the rate of twenty-five shillings per annum and, in addition, if such native has more than one wife according to native custom, a further sum of twenty-five shillings for every such additional wife. No native, however, is liable to pay in respect of himself and his wives more than three pounds fifteen shillings in any one year. A native inhabitant of the Union who resides in Basutoland for twelve months becomes liable to taxation in respect of that year, unless he is able to prove payment of tax in the country of his permanent residence.

Assistant Commissioners are empowered to exempt from the payment of tax, for any one year or more, any native who is incapacitated by extreme old age, personal infirmity, or other causes from earning a livelihood.

The Assistant Commissioners are in charge of the collection of tax in their districts, which duty they carry out through the chiefs and headmen who are nominally responsible to them for the collection in their respective wards. Paid native collectors operate in

each district under the supervision of the Assistant Commissioner, and in conjunction with the chiefs to whose wards they are appointed. To encourage the chiefs to interest themselves in this duty they are paid annual gratuities based on a percentage of the yearly collection in their respective wards. Facilities also exist, and are largely used by both individuals and labour recruiting agencies for the payment of tax at the Government offices situated in each of the camps and at the more important ports of exit. Members of the Basutoland Mounted Police are invariably employed towards the end of each financial year to patrol the districts, accompanied by chiefs' messengers, to give a stimulus to the collection and to bring in defaulters.

An officer of the Administration is now stationed in Johannesburg, with a staff of five native clerks, for the purpose of collecting arrear and current tax from the natives of the High Commission Territories working on the gold mines along the reef. Upwards of 30,000 Basuto are always employed on the mines, and at the time the arrangement commenced, many natives had been away from Basutoland for four or five years.

This office has now been in operation since April, 1932, and has become increasingly successful. During 1933 the designation of the Officer in Charge was changed to " Basutoland Government Representative ", and besides the collection of tax he has taken over many duties in connexion with the Basuto that were formerly done by the Union Native Affairs Department.

Poll Tax.

By Proclamation No. 22 of 5th May, 1933, a poll tax of £2 per annum was imposed on all adult males in Basutoland who are not liable for Native Tax. This is collected in two half-yearly instalments due on 1st January and 1st July. The revenue derived from this source during the year amounted to £1,265.

Posts and Telegraphs.

The new Basutoland issue of postage and revenue stamps came on sale on 1st December, 1933. There are eleven denominations ranged in the following order, the first ten being postage and revenue stamps :—½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., and for revenue purposes only £1. The respective colours are, green, red, purple, blue, grey, light brown, orange, dark brown, blue-purple, olive and black. One design only is used, which contains a pleasing vignette of His Majesty the King, placed above a scene depicting the Maluti mountains and the Orange River, while in the foreground is a representation of a crocodile—the emblem of the ruling house of Moshesh.

XVI.—LABOUR.

The gold mines play an increasingly large part in the economic position of the territory, by employing annually large numbers of Basuto, and it is estimated that with upwards of 35,000 Basuto on the mines, over one million pounds is annually paid out to natives from this territory in wages. Many of them remit money through the Native Deposit and Remittance Agency to their families in Basutoland, and a big majority of them defer a portion of their monthly wage in order that they may collect it on their return home.

During 1933, £96,932 was paid out in remittances and £59,250 in deferred pay, the corresponding figures for 1932 being £37,814 and £50,165.

The following table gives the number of passes issued during the past two years and indicates the purpose for which the native left the territory :—

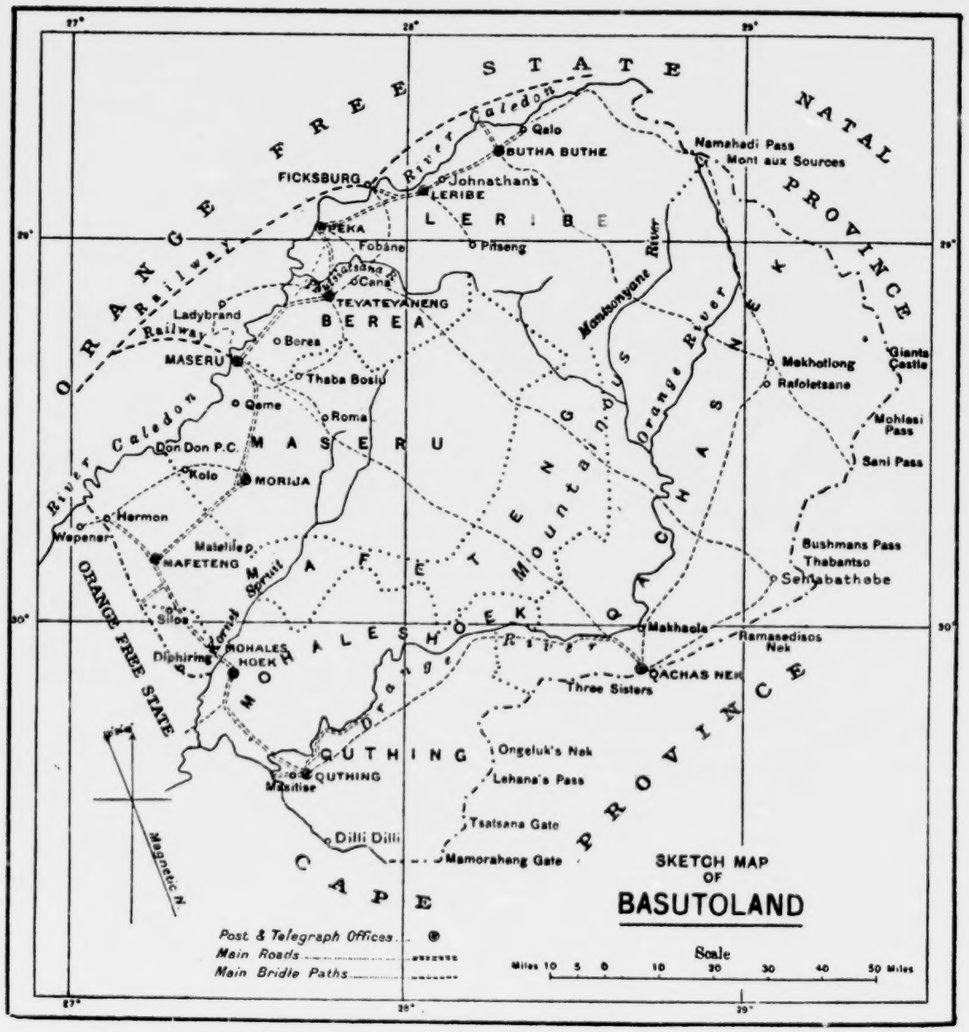
	1933.	*1934.*
A. *Labour:* Mines		
Gold	25,731	22,994
Coal	72	156
Diamonds	—	220
Total Mines	25,803	23,370
Agriculture	15,237	6,700
Miscellaneous	10,816	8,372
Total Labour	51,856	38,442
B. *Visiting*	57,651	38,097
Totals	109,507	76,539

APPENDIX.

Publications Relating to Basutoland.

The Basutos, by Sir Godfrey Lagden, K.C.M.G., 2 vols.—Hutchinson.

Report on the Financial and Economic Position of Basutoland (Cmd. 4907) His Majesty's Stationery Office ... ... 3*s.* 6*d.*



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Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

MIGRATION.

Report to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Migration Policy. [Cmd. 4689.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*)

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Report of Royal Commission, 1931. [Cmd. 3993.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 11*d.*).
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Native Affairs Department Annual Report for 1932. 3s. (3s. 4d.).
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Railway Rates and Finance. Report by Mr. Roger Gibb, September, 1932. [Cmd. 4235.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 7*d.*).

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission. [Cmd. 4182.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 8*d.*).
East African Agricultural Research Station, Amani. Sixth Annual Report, 1933–34. [Colonial No. 100.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commission, March, 1933. [Cmd. 4368.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

SWAZILAND.

Financial and Economic Situation. Report of Commission. [Cmd. 4114.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 9*d.*).

MALAYA.

Report of Brigadier-General Sir S. H. Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit during 1932. [Cmd. 4276.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

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Financial Situation. Report of Commission, July, 1933. [Colonial No. 90.] 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 5*d.*).

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Financial Situation. Report of Commission, December, 1931. [Cmd. 4034.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 10*d.*).

WEST INDIES.

Report of the Closer Union Commission. (Leeward Islands, Windward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago.) [Cmd. 4383.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).
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PALESTINE.

Report on Immigration, Land Settlement and Development, by Sir John Hope Simpson, C.I.E., 1930. [Cmd. 3686.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).
Appendix to Report, containing Maps. [Cmd. 3687.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 3*d.*).

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BASUTOLAND FOR THE YEAR 1935

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Basutoland is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, and on the south by the Cape Province. Its area is 11,716 square miles. It lies between 28° 35′ and 30° 40′ South latitude and between 27° and 29° 30′ East longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 ft. to 11,000 ft. above sea-level. The Maluti Mountains, which occupy most of the territory to the east, were in former years reserved for grazing purposes but, owing to the pressure in the lowlands where the bulk of the population is concentrated, this more or less inaccessible area has become comparatively thickly populated. One result of this occupation of the mountain area is the disappearance of big game, such as eland and hartebeest, which used to abound, and the gradual elimination of small game and birds.

The climate is dry and bracing with extremes of heat and cold both seasonal and diurnal. High altitude, electric tension and long periods of strong sunshine without clouds or rain necessitate for European residents periodic changes to the coast level where the air is more humid.

The temperature varies from a maximum of 93° F. to a minimum of 11° F. The rainfall is capricious, the average being approximately 30 inches per annum, but it fluctuates much above and below this figure. The rainfall in 1935 recorded at the different stations in the territory varied between 29·98 and 15·27 inches.

The Basuto as a nation did not come into prominence until 1818 when Moshesh, a minor chief of the Bakwena tribe in North Basutoland, gathered together the remnants of the various clans that had been scattered by the raids of the Zulu and Matabele.

The new nation went through many vicissitudes of fortune, first with the emigrant Boers of the Great Trek, and then with the British under General Cathcart in 1852. From 1856 until 1868 there was a series of wars with the Orange Free State burghers and, being hard pressed and having lost a large portion of his country (now known as the "Conquered Territory"), Moshesh sought the protection of the British Government. This was granted and carried into effect by Sir Philip Wodehouse, the Governor of the Cape, by a Proclamation dated 12th March 1868.

It is interesting to note that, although Moshesh asked for British protection, the Basuto were received as British subjects and not as protected subjects by the Proclamation of 1868, part of which reads:—

> "Now therefore, I do hereby proclaim and declare that from and after publication hereof the said tribe of Basuto shall be taken to be British subjects, and the territory of the said tribe shall be taken to be British territory."

The country remained in a very unsettled condition until it was annexed to the Cape Colony by an Act of the Cape Legislature, No. 12 of 1871. The Act expressly declared that the territory was not to be subject to the general laws of the Colony, and gave the Governor power to legislate for it by proclamation and to extend to it by proclamation any Cape Act not otherwise in force therein.

The people never took kindly to the Cape Colonial rule, and after various disturbances the Government of the Cape, in 1880, extended to Basutoland the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878, which included a clause for the general disarmament of the Basuto. They refused to accept the terms and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at under which the Act was repealed and certain fines paid by the tribe.

Although outwardly peace was restored, there still remained several chiefs who would not submit, and it was eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This was effected by Order in Council of 2nd February 1884, which was proclaimed and brought

into force by Proclamation No. 75A of 18th March 1884. This proclamation defined the boundaries of the territory and restored it to the direct control of the Queen through Her Majesty's High Commissioner for South Africa.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The territory is governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland, the latter possessing legislative authority, which is exercised by proclamation promulgated in the official *Gazette*. The Financial Secretary, who is also Treasurer, prepares the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure and the Annual Accounts. Until 1931 the office of the High Commissioner was held by the Governor-General of the Union of South Africa, but with the close of the Earl of Athlone's period of office the two posts were separated.

For administrative purposes the country is divided into seven districts under District Commissioners: Maseru, Leribe (including the sub-district of Butha Buthe), Teyateyaneng, Mafeteng, Mohales Hoek, Quthing and Qachas Nek (with the sub-district of Mokhotlong). These districts are divided into chiefdoms and sub-chiefdoms presided over by the hereditary chiefs and sub-chiefs allied to the Moshesh family who are responsible to the Paramount Chief in all matters relating to native law and custom.

In 1903 there was established a Basutoland Council in place of the National Pitso which was previously held once every year. Its constitution and functions are defined by Proclamation No. 7 of 31st March 1910. The Council consists of 100 members, including the Paramount Chief as Chief Councillor, with the Resident Commissioner as President. The Resident Commissioner nominates five members, and the remaining 94 are nominated by the Paramount Chief and confirmed in their appointments by the Resident Commissioner. The Council exists for the discussion of the domestic affairs of the territory.

III.—POPULATION.

No census has been taken since 1921. The following figures indicate the racial distribution of the population at that time:—

District.	*Europeans.*	*Bantu.*	*Coloured other than Bantu.*
Leribe	260	107,794	211
Berea	132	56,674	136
Maseru	612	99,378	266
Mafeteng	262	67,279	221
Mohales Hoek ...	159	60,568	281
Quthing	115	38,051	96
Qachas Nek	63	66,193	30
Totals	1,603	495,937	1,241

Besides the population as enumerated above 47,141 Basuto were stated to be absent at various labour centres outside the territory when the census was taken. The present population is estimated at 580,000.

The following is a comparative statement of the density of the population (other than European) at the censuses of 1904, 1911 and 1921 :—

	1904.	*1911.*	*1921.*
Number of persons per square mile ...	33·78	38·97	48·30
Number of acres per head of population ...	18·94	16·42	13·25
Number of occupied huts per square mile...	8·42	10·86	16·99
Number of persons to each occupied hut ...	4·01	3·61	2·84

There is no compulsory registration of births, deaths, or marriages according to native custom. Marriages according to Christian rites numbered 1,052 during the year under review.

IV.—HEALTH.

The medical service of the territory consists of a Principal Medical Officer, eight Medical Officers and two District Surgeons. A Medical Officer is stationed at each district headquarters and the District Surgeons at sub-district headquarters. There are five Government hospitals staffed by qualified European nurses with native attendants, and two cottage hospitals staffed by native nurses. The total number of hospital beds available for the territory is 148 for natives and 12 for Europeans. At each of the district headquarters a daily dispensary clinic is conducted by the Medical Officer. Trained native men dispense the medicines prescribed by the Medical Officer.

There were 67,316 attendances at the Government dispensaries during the year. Of these 45,454 were first attendances and 21,862 subsequent attendances. The number of attendances showed an increase of 2,328 as compared with the year 1934.

The total number of in-patients treated in the Government hospitals in 1935 was 3,251 as compared with 3,117 in 1934. The following table shows the details of work carried out at the hospital and dispensary of each district :—

District.	*Hospital.*	*Dispensary.*	
	In-Patients.	*First Attendances.*	*Total Attendances.*
Maseru...	1,017	9,904	17,417
Leribe	713	8,903	12,010
Mafeteng	472	7,490	11,830
Mohales Hoek ...	444	4,827	6,827
Qachas Nek	283	4,237	5,840
Quthing	247	4,037	6,039
Teyeteyaneng ...	75	6,056	7,353
Total	3,251	45,454	67,316

The following table indicates the prevalence of the more common infectious diseases in 1935 as compared with the year 1934.

Disease.	1934.	1935.
Influenza	969	1,550
Typhoid Fever	607	127
Dysentery	73	53
Typhus Fever	1,491	192
Whooping Cough	312	257
Measles	54	476
Smallpox	—	—
Scarlet Fever	2	11
Diphtheria	2	11
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	254	549

From this table it will be observed that influenza and measles assumed epidemic proportions, while typhoid fever and typhus fever show a very marked decline. The diminution in the number of typhus fever cases is attributed to an immunity acquired from the epidemics that occurred in 1933 and 1934, and to the energetic measures taken to deal with outbreaks by means of portable deverminising plants.

Tropical diseases such as malaria do not occur in the territory.

Though no cases of human plague were observed in the territory, mortality occurred amongst the field rodent population from rodent plague in localized areas on the south-western borders adjacent to areas in neighbouring territories where human plague cases have occurred. An organization of trained personnel, European and native, has been created to destroy domestic and other rodents in and around the Government stations and to deal with outbreaks of human plague should such occur.

Pellagra, a disease which occurs among people whose staple diet is maize, has been more prevalent during 1935 than in any previous year. Cases have from time to time occurred in the territory since 1907 when it was first diagnosed in the Leribe district. In 1933 only three cases were reported. In 1934 there were 76 cases and in 1935 the number of cases increased to 147.

Venereal diseases, syphilis and gonorrhoea, are still very widespread throughout the territory notwithstanding the efforts made by the Government to reduce their incidence and the crippling effects they produce.

Leprosy and Leper Settlement.

The population of the Leper Settlement on 31st December 1935, was 707 as compared with 728 in 1934 and 736 in 1933. One hundred and sixteen new cases of leprosy were admitted as compared with 128 cases in 1933 and 102 cases in 1934. The six native Leprosy Inspectors appointed in 1929 are stationed in different parts of the territory and tour from village to village for the purpose

of examining all persons showing any signs of leprosy. The value of this organization is shown by the fact that cases are now brought to the asylum while the disease is at an early stage and therefore much more likely to be cured by appropriate treatment. The following comparative table supports this statement.

Year.	*Duration of the disease in months on admission to the Settlement.*		
	1–12 Months.	*13–24 Months.*	*Over 2 Years.*
1924	31 per cent.	37 per cent.	32 per cent.
1929	41 „	24·5 „	34·5 „
1935	59·8 „	22·4 „	17·8 „

An encouraging feature is that suspected cases are readily presented to the Inspectors for examination and if certified as lepers they willingly go to the Settlement because there is now a widespread feeling among the tribe that the institution is a place where their disease is cured and they no longer regard it as a form of imprisonment as they did for several years after compulsory segregation was first established in 1914. This confidence is due to the number of cases which, having been admitted at an early stage, are discharged with the disease cured or arrested after a comparatively short period of residence. Fifty-eight patients were discharged in 1935 with the disease cured or arrested as compared with 34 in 1934.

V.—HOUSING.

There are no factories or industrial undertakings in Basutoland and the problem of the proper accommodation of workers has not arisen.

The Basuto live in villages under tribal authority and their huts are, on the whole, healthy, if primitive. These huts are built of sods or stone, with a mud floor and thatched roof; and the average number of persons to each hut occupied is 2·84.

The small European population consists of civil servants, missionaries and traders, and is, as a rule, well housed in buildings of cut stone or brick.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

There are no fisheries; and no mining operations are carried out in Basutoland.

Production is dealt with under two heads, Agricultural and Animal Husbandry.

Agriculture.

No land in Basutoland is cultivated by Europeans with the exception of a few fields in the vicinity of mission stations; these are held under the same system of land tenure as those of the natives. Cultivation is, in the main, carried out by individual native agriculturists who are allotted lands by the chiefs. Until the crop is reaped the land is under the sole management of the individual, after which it falls back to the community for grazing. Generally, three pieces of land are given in this way to every married man—one each for wheat, maize and sorghum. It is estimated that approximately one-fifteenth of the country is under the plough.

The chief agricultural products of the territory are maize, sorghum and wheat. Peas, beans, barley, oats, pumpkins, potatoes, and other vegetables are also grown but not to any appreciable extent. Maize and sorghum form the staple diet of the people, and consequently only a very small percentage of these commodities is exported.

The approximate acreages planted under the different crops during the year 1935 and the results harvested are tabulated below :—

Crop.	*Acreage sown.*	*Crop reaped. Bags of 200 lb.*	*Remarks.*
Maize	249,941	518,663	A larger acreage than usual was ploughed in 1935 owing to good spring rains.
Wheat	100,000	194,498	
Sorghum	118,696	259,331	
Peas, beans and other crops including barley	31,242	64,833	

General Agricultural Conditions and Rainfall for 1935.

The rainfall for 1935 is indicated in Section I. During the early spring and summer months conditions were most favourable for the growth of maize, sorghum and wheat. The wheat crop was good over most of the lowland areas except in the Mafeteng and Mohales Hoek districts where it was destroyed by locusts. The crop reaped in the mountain districts was good.

The maize and sorghum crops suffered severely from drought in the middle of the growing season and from early frosts.

During the drought of 1932-3 the small stock-owner lost most of his cattle with the result that he has found difficulty in getting his lands ploughed. This fact is having an adverse effect on the agriculture of the country.

Under-stocking since the drought has resulted in a great improvement in grazing. The grass has had an opportunity of seeding and everywhere bare patches are filling in. " Bitter Karroo " bush, which was becoming a serious menace to grazing owing to grass burning and other causes, is disappearing and large tracts of country, where the grass was partially destroyed by overstocking thus giving the " Bitter Karroo " and other pioneer weeds the opportunity of spreading, are now becoming grassed in again.

Wheat.

The policy of introducing strong wheats is being continued and is meeting with considerable success. The Spring and Manitoba varieties are the most promising. Good baking and milling results have been obtained from samples sent to the Stellenbosch University for tests.

Experimental plots have been started for the purpose of carrying out tests on summer cereals and wheat. It is hoped that after a few years much useful information will be gathered about the yielding capacity of the best types of wheat, the best time for sowing, and the varieties showing the best milling and baking properties.

Barley.

This cereal is being grown to a much larger extent than before and the Basuto are beginning to use it more for human consumption, making of the grain a bread which is quite palatable.

A test of the suitability of Basuto-grown barley for malt-making will shortly be carried out.

Peas.

Peas are also being sown on a much larger scale than in previous years. Propaganda by the Agricultural Department has borne a certain amount of fruit and many of the natives now realize that peas are suitable for growing at the higher altitudes in rotation with wheat.

Vegetable Growing.

The Agricultural Department has not relaxed its efforts to induce the people to start small terraced gardens near their homes, and these efforts in many districts are meeting with success. A number of well-filled vegetable gardens were observed during the year. The addition of vegetables to the diet of the Basuto will have a very marked effect in the prevention of scurvy, especially during seasons of the year when milk is scarce.

Locusts.

As a result of the entry of swarms of brown locusts and red-wing locusts in the autumn and winter of 1934 and the deposit of eggs by these swarms, a fairly serious infestation of hoppers occurred early in the year. 5,315 major swarms of hoppers, besides many small swarms, were destroyed early in the year. No swarms reached the flying stage in Basutoland.

AGRICULTURAL DEMONSTRATION WORK.

Twenty-six native agricultural demonstrators and one agricultural foreman are employed A great deal of useful work continues to be undertaken by these men.

During the year under review the demonstration plots were in most cases outstanding and the average results obtained from 21

acre plots which had received 200 lb. of superphosphate per acre was 6·49 bags per acre, while 21 acre plots unmanured produced 2·9 bags per acre.

It is realized that the low yield per acre of crops in Basutoland is largely due to the soil being depleted of plant food by constant planting over a long period without rotation, and the Government has inaugurated a scheme whereby natives can obtain superphosphate through the Agricultural Department at cost price. It is hoped that more natives will purchase manure for their exhausted lands thereby greatly increasing the production of food in the territory.

Agricultural Co-operation.

Agricultural co-operation, in the form of Farmers Associations, Co-operative Societies and Native Women's Associations, has revived to a great extent during the past year. During the year following the serious drought of 1932-3 and the poverty which resulted, no interest was shown in any form of co-operation. Since then, however, many of the educated Basuto have realized that by co-operation their position can be improved. With the advice of the Department they are doing their best to revive the old societies and start fresh ones. There is a Co-operative Society at Morija with a capital of over £100 which is a successful concern.

There is a great future for the Native Women's Associations of which there are four. Those so far formed show great keenness for agricultural work, especially gardening. A comparatively large number of gardens has been started by members.

There are 20 agricultural associations in the territory. Some of them are doing good work and it is hoped that they will assist in the introduction of improved agricultural methods in the territory.

Soil Erosion.

Up-to-date methods of anti-soil erosion work practiced in other countries are being used in the territory.

Works of this nature have been completed in the Qoaling valley on the Maseru reserve. Dams have been built to conserve the water and contour banks made in order to spread the storm water evenly over the grass land. The results obtained are most encouraging, bare sheet-eroded land having become grassed over and the grass improved so that a large part of the area has been cut for hay.

Similar works have been started at the Paramount Chief's village at Matsieng where over 700 acres have already been completed. The Paramount Chief is taking a great interest in the anti-soil erosion work which is being undertaken and his support is of very great value.

Forestry.

For economic reasons the tree nurseries have been closed down and exotic trees must now be bought from the Union through the District Commissioners at cost price.

The planting of willows along the banks of the rivers and of trees which spread by runners (e.g. white poplar and robinia pseudacacia) will be encouraged for anti-soil erosion works, firewood and hut building.

The natives in the north of the Territory have responded to the propaganda of the Department regarding tree planting and have planted more poplars than have natives in other parts of the country.

Livestock.

The year 1935 was notable for the many progressive measures which were initiated in respect of animal husbandry.

These will be dealt with under the various headings. During the year, owing to favourable climatic conditions and abundance of grazing, all domesticated animals, with the exception of sheep and goats, have enjoyed excellent health.

Sheep and Goats.

The territory still enjoys freedom from scab and the Veterinary Department's activities have been concentrated on sheep and wool improvement. This campaign has been rendered possible by the successful conclusion of the scab campaign and is aimed at producing more and better wool.

The market for mohair still lacks stability and there has in consequence been little encouragement for either the Government or the producer to do much in the way of developing the industry.

In regard to the production of more and better wool a great deal of work has been undertaken and a number of obstacles have been overcome. The effect of this work will be appreciated in later years, for it was based on the belief that to achieve success it was necessary to improve both the type and the health of the sheep.

For the former purpose the Government introduced 663 selected merino rams from prominent sheep breeders in the Union of South Africa. These rams were depastured on the Maseru Reserve for almost three months for acclimatisation purposes and will be available for distribution in January 1936.

A census taken at the beginning of 1935 shows a decrease over the previous year of some 400,000 small stock. The census showed a total of 1,285,596 sheep and 432,230 goats in the territory. This decrease was due principally to internal parasites. A dosing campaign was inaugurated during the year and 259,367 small stock were dosed. The policy of voluntary dosing did not meet with as much success as was hoped, and the Government was forced to introduce legislation for the compulsory monthly dosing of small stock. This campaign will start early in 1936.

During the year 3,718 undesirable rams were emasculated. The campaign to eliminate undesirable rams was successful chiefly owing to the whole-hearted support received from the Paramount Chief.

Statistics show that 7,317,226 lb. of wool and 851,083 lb. of mohair were exported during the year.

In order to demonstrate that the sorting of native wool pays, an experiment was conducted in the Quthing district. Before shearing was commenced the farmer was offered by the local trader 4d. per lb. for his wool in the mixed state. Twenty bales of the sorted wool were despatched to the coast and, after deducting all expenses, the owner received £36 8s. 3d. more than he would have received had he sold locally. Top lines realised 8½d. It is the Government's policy to encourage and promote the sorting of native wools by giving demonstrations and proving the economic value of this course.

As a result of a conference between Veterinary Officers of the High Commission Territories and representatives of the Union Veterinary Service, double dipping of slaughter sheep at certain ports of exit from Basutoland to the Union was abolished. This concession should be of material benefit as it will encourage the the slaughter sheep industry. The concession only applies to sheep consigned to abattoirs for immediate slaughter.

Cattle.

In order to bring Basutoland in line with other countries it was decided to adopt the block system of annual inoculation of all cattle in the territory against anthrax. Some 371,499 cattle were inoculated by the members of the Veterinary Division during 1935 and this operation will be repeated annually.

Practically no slaughter cattle were exported during the year, but there is a steady and growing demand in the Union for Basutoland oxen for draught purposes. The Basuto ox is famous for its docility, hardiness and stoutness of build.

The policy of eliminating undesirable bulls by emasculation was pursued and as a result of moral persuasive measures many weedy scrub animals were castrated.

The exportation of female cattle is prohibited excepting in certain cases. These measures have helped to consolidate our position as far as cattle improvement is concerned.

Basutoland has great natural advantages for cattle breeding.

Horses.

Despite all efforts in the past, the famous Basuto pony has lost its individuality and the old stocky type is rarely seen. This situation is causing the Administration much anxiety and steps are to be taken to rehabilitate our horse stock. Basutoland is very suitable for the breeding of horses although certain poisonous plants of the *Senecio* family have in recent years made inroads into the pastures in the highlands.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The following is a comparative statement of the imports and exports by general traders during the last three years :—

Imports.

Description.	1933.		1934.		1935.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Merchandise	—	£ 362,986	—	£ 405,859	—	£ 498,992
Live Stock :—	No.		No.		No.	
Horses, Mules, etc.	40	98	6	18	76	297
Cattle	1,264	1,691	157	354	436	1,213
Sheep and Goats	783	210	24	21	77	43
Grain :—	Bags.		Bags.		Bags.	
Wheat and Wheat Meal ...	8,675	10,381	10,051	14,770	5,900	8,311
Maize and Maize Meal	356,158	217,007	138,779	97,105	101,531	51,476
Sorghum...	25,018	17,028	78,051	47,956	50,229	26,696
Other Produce	—	1,709	—	684	—	1,303
Total Imports ...	—	£611,110	—	£566,767	—	£588,331
Exports.						
Live Stock :—	No.	£	No.	£	No.	£
Horses, Mules, etc.	52	144	191	844	100	521
Cattle	17,491	41,665	17,173	53,574	3,189	14,943
Sheep and Goats	3,831	1,423	2,971	1,542	1,138	730
Grain :—	Bags.		Bags.		Bags.	
Wheat and Wheat Meal ...	55,822	45,102	89,545	88,919	181,090	152,315
Maize and Maize Meal	107	71	1,675	1,048	8,105	2,574
Sorghum...	1,561	806	73	54	184	109
Barley	91	36	275	146	1,108	428
Beans and Peas...	603	361	262	273	4,582	3,727
Wool and Mohair :—	lb.		lb.		lb.	
Wool	9,864,043	196,146	5,093,858	118,744	6,410,589	131,198
Mohair	1,926,180	26,697	702,018	12,602	830,245	22,513
Hides and Skins :—						
Skins	167,615	1,577	180,757	1,850	49,596	462
Hides	1,193,759	15,551	352,524	4,755	104,753	1,459
Miscellaneous	—	578	—	171	—	166
Total Exports ...	—	£330,157	—	£284,522	—	£331,145

Other Statistics, 1935.

(1) Government Imports		£33,095
		No.
(2) Sheep and Goats exported		3,858
(3) Sheep and Goats imported		5,500
(4) Cattle exported		6,301
(5) Cattle imported		3,207
(6) Equines imported		756
	lb.	*lb.*
(7) Wool exported by Traders	6,410,589	
Wool exported by Hawkers and Individuals ...	906,637	
Total Wool exported		7,317,226
(8) Mohair exported by Traders	830,245	
Mohair exported by Hawkers and Individuals	20,838	
Total Mohair exported		851,083
Total Wool and Mohair exported ...		8,168,309

All exports are made to the Union of South Africa and imports are as a general rule made through the same channel. The past few years have been characterised by the low prices obtaining for wool and mohair, the staple products of the territory on the value of which the main purchasing power of the native depends. A gradual improvement is now evident. The principal articles of United Kingdom manufacture for which there exists definite possibility of further development in trade are blankets, native trade goods, and agricultural implements (including steam or motor driven machinery). The blanket factory, started some years ago at Harrismith in the Orange Free State, takes an increasingly large portion of the blanket trade which was formerly given to manufacturers in the United Kingdom.

The following table indicates the source or origin of motor vehicles registered in the territory during 1935 :—

Country of Origin.	*New Registrations.*	*Total Registrations.*
Private Motor Vehicles and Taxis.		
Great Britain	15	24
Canada	24	37
United States of America ...	127	346
Germany	—	1
Italy	1	1
France	1	2
	168	411

Country of Origin.	*New Registrations.*	*Total Registrations.*
Commercial Vehicles.		
Great Britain	7	15
Canada	19	22
United States of America ...	33	100
	59	137
Motor Cycles.		
Great Britain	5	15
United States of America ...	—	4
	5	19

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

There are no factories or industrial undertakings in the territory, and there is only one mile of railway, which is owned and operated by the South African Railways Administration.

Salaries and wages earned by Europeans vary from £200 to £850 per annum in the case of Government servants and from £120 to £500 per annum in the case of employees of trading concerns.

Native wages vary from £24 to £204 per annum in the case of Government employees and from £15 to £48 per annum in the case of store boys, etc., employed by traders.

Natives proceeding to the gold mines in the Union of South Africa receive, on an average, a wage of £3 for every 30 shifts worked, with free food and housing.

The average cost of living for single natives is estimated at £1 *per mensem*, and for married natives £3 *per mensem*. The cost of living of Europeans varies considerably and is in a great measure dependent on the social or official position of the person concerned.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education in Basutoland presents most of the problems attending African education in other territories with the additional difficulty that the country is for the most part very mountainous with its "highlander" population settled somewhat sparsely in isolated valleys very difficult of access.

In spite of this it can be claimed that education of an elementary sort at least is accessible to practically all the people; while the voluntary school enrolment of about two-thirds of the children of school-going age is undoubtedly a very remarkable phenomenon for Africa, and striking evidence of the devotion and enterprise of the missionaries who, with grants-in-aid from the Government,

have brought it about. The three missions mainly concerned are the Paris Evangelical Missionary Society, the Roman Catholic Mission and the English Church Mission. Of these the first named is the oldest, with over a century of work behind it in Basutoland, and it has reached a point in its development when it is no longer fairly described as a " mission ", since as the result of the faith and foresight of its pioneers it has now in reality become an indigenous national Church, with its Basuto members in an overwhelming majority in its governing council. To this in great measure is to be attributed the fact that Basutoland is so much freer of mushroom and fancifully styled African sects than most other native areas of the sub-continent.

The main end of education policy in Basutoland has been to offer to as many as possible the opportunity of learning to read and write and make simple calculations. It is recognized that at the present time the greater numbers of pupils will attend school for three or four years only, and to achieve this end education in the lower classes is practically all in the native language and keeps the boys and girls in their own environment.

Of Elementary Vernacular Schools there are 519, which are aided from public funds, and 218 which the Missions maintain without aid. On a higher level there are 43 schools giving instruction up to Standard VI and introducing more English both into the curriculum and the teaching medium. Of these, three are purely Government schools, managed by local committees.

Education of a higher standard and of a vocational character is provided in one Government and ten Mission institutions. The former is a Trades School for boys, while of the latter, three train teachers to the standard of the Native Primary Lower Certificate of the Cape Province Education Department, three train girls as Infant School teachers, three are schools of domestic science for girls, and one offers industrial training for boys. Ordinary education up to the level of the Junior Certificate can be obtained in two of these Mission Institutions but beyond that it is necessary for students to proceed to colleges outside the territory, more especially the South African Native College at Fort Hare, which has been supported by the Basutoland Administration from its foundation and to which Government bursaries are available.

In 1935 the total enrolment in all schools in the territory was: Government schools 381, Government-aided Mission schools 64,000, Unaided Mission schools, 12,174, Training Institutions and Craft schools, 537.

The staff of the Education Department consists at present of a Director, two European Inspectors, and five Native Supervisors. Administrative expenses are met from the general revenue, while the grants-in-aid to Missions, the cost of the purely Government schools and certain other charges are taken from the Native Education Fund. This fund receives a quarter of the ordinary native tax

payments together with a special education levy of 3s. per taxpayer. It is estimated that £47,150 will be spent from this fund in 1936.

Education is free in all the elementary and intermediate schools, and attendance is not compulsory. There are the familiar difficulties of herding for the boys and home duties for the girls to make attendance irregular, but on the whole the eagerness to secure education is very remarkable.

There is discernible in Basutoland, as in all other South African native areas, a growing desire for education of a higher grade, and one of the urgent problems of the immediate future will be the consideration of how this is to be provided, and on what lines and with what amount of Government support.

The internal circumstances of the country are not such as to provide many openings for the more highly educated Basuto, except in the service of the Government.

Most of what is being done on the side of Vocational Education has to do with European rather than indigenous crafts, e.g., carpentry, saddlery, laundry, cooking, etc. In connexion with these the problem is often to find scope for their exercise in the life of a community which is not yet up to the standard required for the support of more than very few craftsmen. In regard to the domestic crafts of the girls there is, of course, ample scope, and a steady raising of the standard of homes and home-crafts is noticeable. But it will take some time for the ordinary life of the Basutoland countryside, which has a communal basis, to develop to the point of absorbing more than a very few skilled artisans. However, progress here is evident and an increasing number of tradesmen such as carpenters, blacksmiths, and cobblers are to be found doing reasonably well at their trades. Here, as in other spheres, it is energy that counts.

As regards indigenous crafts the range is not very great, perhaps in the main through the lack of the necessary materials such as wood, osiers, etc. An investigation conducted early in 1935 on behalf of the Administration by Mr. H. V. Meyerowitz has revealed how important in the life of the countryside is the pottery of the women, the grass and other weaving of both men and women, and how skilful in the clay modelling of animals, etc., are some of the children. These crafts are receiving attention in the handwork of some of the schools and there are possibilities of development.

Social welfare activities are mainly in the hands of the Churches, and much good work is being done. Useful training in home-making, needlework, etc., is a feature in many of the schools for girls who have ceased to attend the ordinary classes.

Recreative activities are noticeably on the increase, chiefly in the form of organized school games, and inter-school competitions in games, athletics, drill and singing are frequent and popular.

The Wayfarer-Guide and Pathfinder-Boy Scout Movements are developing in an encouraging fashion and cannot fail to exert a profound and beneficial influence on the life of the people.

European Education.—There are several small schools in the territory, managed by local committees and supported by the Government, which provide elementary education for the children in the European centres. For education beyond the elementary stage children are sent to schools in the Union. The Government provides annually one bursary (for children under 13 years of age) of £25 for two years; and for some time past, through the generosity of a local firm, another bursary of £50 per annum for two years (also for children under 13 years) has been instituted.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Railways.

The territory is linked with the railway system of the Union of South Africa by a short branch line from Maseru to Marseilles on the Bloemfontein-Natal main line. One mile of this line is in Basutoland. The South African Railway runs near the boundaries of the territory and goods are transported by road to the nearest railway station across the border.

Roads and Bridle Paths.

The greater part of Basutoland is exceptionally mountainous and in this area all transport is effected by the use of pack animals. A few of the main bridle paths are maintained by the Government.

On the western side of Basutoland where there is a strip of agricultural country stretching from north to south, a fairly good road system has been developed. The main roads traverse the whole of this area with branches leading west to the principal points of exit. In nearly all cases the roads are gravelled and carry motor and ox-wagon traffic in all weather. There are, however, a number of unbridged rivers and streams which during flood periods may delay travelling for some hours.

From the main roads a number of feeder roads lead towards the interior. By-roads to trading centres and missions connect with these feeder roads, penetrating still further into the interior, but although several roads now cross the first range of mountains none has yet reached the second range. Feeder roads are maintained by the Government but are not of a high standard. During the year under review a few additional culverts have been constructed on them, and as funds are available further improvements will be carried out.

The by-roads are in many instances unsuitable for any type of traffic except ox-wagons. They are maintained by traders and others to whose stations they lead and annual Government grants are made towards their upkeep.

On the eastern side of Basutoland in the Quthas Nek district a short system of roads similar to that described above exists, and the standard reached is much the same as that obtaining on the western side of the territory.

The existing system of communications came under review by the Fim Commission which visited the territory in 1934. The conclusions reached in the Report may be summarized as follows: Any considerable expenditure on new developments is not to be recommended at the present time, but steps should be taken to improve the condition of the bridle paths, the remedying of road-side erosion should be advanced energetically, and a commencement made in necessary re-alignment of the roads and in the construction of permanent donga crossings and causeways.

The recommendations of the Commission are being carried out. During the year the expenditure on bridle paths has been increased materially, a causeway has been erected over the Hlotsenyane river, a small low-level bridge over the Qalaheng, while a new road has been constructed from the main road two miles south of Mohales Hoek to the site of the new bridge over the Maghaleen river.

During the year, work carried out by the Union Public Works Department has been commenced on two border bridges, one at Caledon Poort over the Caledon river on the north-west boundary of the territory and the other on the south-west boundary across the Maghaleen river. Basutoland will contribute one-half the cost of these bridges. It is anticipated that the Caledon Poort bridge will be open to traffic early in 1936.

The funds allocated during the past two years for the maintenance of roads, bridges and ferries together with the expenditure on new construction for the same period are tabulated below:—

	New Construction.	*Maintenance.*
1934	£5,520	£12,260
1935	£5,050*	£14,000*

*Estimated expenditure.

The following is a classification of the roads in the territory:—

Gravel—320 miles main road and 62 miles feeder road.

Earth—40 miles main road and 70 miles feeder road.

In addition there are 290 miles of by-road which are chiefly earth roads.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks within the territory; but the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, has a branch office at Maseru.

A change in connexion with currency in Basutoland was effected during 1933 by Proclamation No. 2 of 1933, which made notes of the South African Reserve Bank legal tender for all purposes. The issue by the Standard Bank of gold coin was suspended as from

28th December 1932; and as a result of the Reserve Bank having been relieved of its obligation to redeem its notes in gold and the consequent increase in the price of gold, the Administration, in order to protect the natives of the territory, arranged to buy gold coin at the bank rates of exchange at all district offices.

The weights and measures in common use in the territory are the British Imperial.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

A small programme of construction work was carried out in 1935, in addition to the road work dealt with in Chapter X. The housing facilities at Mokhotlong, a Government camp which can only be reached by bridle paths, have long been inadequate and a start has been made on the building of quarters for the Officer-in-Charge. Additional accommodation for the Police is also being constructed.

In Maseru extensions have been made to the agricultural offices and the veterinary clinic transferred to a more suitable site.

The usual maintenance work on Government buildings accounts for the largest item of expenditure on buildings.

The water supplies of the various camps have been maintained during the year and the supply at Butha Buthe has been augmented by an additional bore-hole. A proposal to increase the supply at Quthing has had to be postponed as it was not possible to obtain a boring unit during the year.

XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE.

Justice.

The laws in force in Basutoland include those of the Cape of Good Hope up to 18th March 1884, except where repealed or altered by proclamation of the High Commissioner, who is empowered to make by proclamation such laws as may be necessary for the peace, order and good government of the territory.

The Basutoland Courts of Law consist of :—

(*a*) *The Resident Commissioner's Court*, which constitutes the Supreme Court of Basutoland, and from which an appeal lies to the Privy Council. Under Proclamation No. 10 of 1928, as amended, the constitution of the Resident Commissioner's Court was altered and provision made for the appointment of a Judicial Commissioner. The Court is now constituted by the Resident Commissioner or, when deputed by him thereto, the Deputy Resident Commissioner or the Judicial Commissioner sitting alone or together; and there may be associated with the Court not more than two officers of the Administration, appointed by the Resident Commissioner for the purpose by notice in the *Gazette*. The Resident Commissioner when present and, in his absence, the Judicial Commissioner is President of the Court, and the judgment of the Court is the judgment pronounced or approved by the President.

The power conferred on the Resident Commissioner to review and correct the proceedings of Courts or officers may be exercised also by the Judicial Commissioner, and any decision recorded or action taken by the Judicial Commissioner in the course of such review or correction is of the same force and effect as if it had been recorded or taken by the Resident Commissioner.

(*b*) *Courts of District Commissioners*, who are empowered to impose sentences not exceeding two years imprisonment with hard labour or fines not exceeding £50, with jurisdiction in civil cases up to £500. These Courts have no jurisdiction to try, as Courts of the first instance, any person charged with treason, murder, attempt to murder, culpable homicide, rape, attempt to commit rape, or sedition.

These Courts are situated in each of the seven districts and in the sub-district of Butha Buthe. A detached Court is also held in the sub-district of Mokhotlong, presided over by a Police Officer exercising minor jurisdiction.

(*c*) *Chiefs' Courts.*—Under Proclamation No. 2B of 1884 the Paramount Chief and other Native Chiefs of Basutoland were authorized to continue to exercise jurisdiction according to native law and custom in civil and criminal cases within such limits as may be defined by any rules established by the authority of the Resident Commissioner, subject to a proviso that no suit, action or proceeding whatsoever to which any European shall be party, either as plaintiff or complainant, or as defendant, shall be adjudicated upon by any such Chief, save by the consent of all parties concerned. An appeal lies from a decision of any Chief to the Court of the District Commissioner of the district within which such Chief exercises jurisdiction.

The following table shows the number of convictions for various crimes and offences during the last five years :—

Nature of Crime.	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*
In Magisterial Courts—					
Offences against the person ...	190	351	95	147	137
Offences against property ...	299	373	558	594	338
Offences against liquor laws ...	41	20	6	12	19
Other crimes	2,406	2,729	1,778	1,327	1,356
In Resident Commissioner's Court—					
Murder	11	10	6	11	2
Culpable homicide	14	62	68	145(*a*)	124(*a*)
Attempted murder	3	5	4	3	3
Rape	9	6	5	1	7
Other offences against the person	9	1	6	7	3
Offences against property with violence to the person.	50	214	94	3	—
Other offences against property...	17	33	45	62	32
Other crimes	1	1	3	2	1

(*a*) Includes cases of public violence resulting in culpable homicide.

Police.

Constitution and Command.—The Basutoland Mounted Police is maintained under Proclamation No. 12 of 1921. The Force is under the control of the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland, who is the Commandant, with a Staff Officer who is stationed in Maseru.

The Establishment of the Force provided for in the Estimates, and actual strength on the 31st of December 1935, was as follows :—

Europeans.	*Establishment.*	*Strength.*
Staff Officer	1	1
Inspectors	5	5
Sub-Inspectors	6	5
Chief Constable	1	1
Assistant Superintendent...	—	1
Total	... 13	Total ... 13
Native Police.		
Sergeant Major	1	1
Sergeants	14	14
Corporals	15	14*
Privates	...260	259*

*Vacancies to be filled.

In addition to the native strength there are two native saddlers attached to the Police.

Of the European personnel two Inspectors acted as District Commissioners, each for a period of six months. Two Sub-Inspectors were seconded for duties in the Secretariat and District Administration for the period under review, and one Sub-Inspector was acting as District Commissioner for three months. The Chief Constable during the year continued to perform the duties of District Police Officer, Maseru, with the rank of Acting Sub-Inspector.

Depot.—The Depot was open for the whole year and 59 men underwent the usual training. Twenty-seven of these were recruits recently joined; the remainder were men enrolled during the years (1931-4) the Depot was closed. Thirty-eight men were sent in from the districts for refresher courses. Owing to the fact that no European Drill Instructor was available the work at the Depot was again undertaken by the native Sergeant-Major and native Sergeant Drill Instructor under the supervision of the Staff Officer.

Finger Print Bureau.—From the 17th of April the Finger Print Bureau has been under the charge of an Assistant Superintendent. Previous to this a part-time officer was employed from another department, and the service could only be used for search of information required; no examination of exhibits or field work could be undertaken. During the year 1,201 prints were received for exam-

ination. This showed a decrease of 341 compared with the previous year. Field work in 14 storebreaking cases was undertaken by the Finger Print Officer. In six of these cases identification of the accused has been proved and the cases concluded. Four cases are still under investigation and in four cases there was no finger print evidence. Material evidence has also been supplied by the Bureau where exhibits were sent in for examination. The services of the Finger Print Officer have also been engaged on relief duties in Maseru District Office when shortage of staff demanded such relief.

Health of the Force.—Generally speaking the health of the Police throughout the year has been good. A senior officer had to be retired on the grounds of ill-health and one native non-commissioned officer died during the year.

Medals and Commendations.—During the year five claims for the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal were received for consideration. These, together with those considered in the previous year, resulted in the award of medals being made to ten non-commissioned officers and men. The presentation was made by the Resident Commissioner at the Police Barracks in Maseru.

One non-commissioned officer was specially commended for conspicuous ability in dealing with a theft case.

Deportees.—During the year 678 deportees and prohibited immigrants were accepted from the Union on their claims to Basutoland domicile being established. These figures show a decrease of 293 compared with the previous year.

Extraneous Duties.—During the year 462 Police were engaged for 11,759 days on duties for other departments. This work was chiefly in connexion with collection of revenue, provision of reliefs for the native staff in the Administrative, Postal and Agricultural Departments. An increase of 460 days is shown compared with last year's figures.

Work of the Police.—During the year 9,920 patrols were sent out. 12,257 men were engaged and the mileage covered by the patrols was 193,269, while the mileage performed by the men was 226,780. This shows a slight decrease on the number of patrols performed compared with the previous year.

2,756 cases were reported and dealt with, including 53 cases awaiting trial at the end of 1934. The cases were disposed of as follows: 1,715 cases were brought before the District Commissioners' Courts, 112 cases were sent to the native Courts, and 929 cases were not brought before the Courts. Included in this latter number there were 389 cases under investigation and 82 committals and awaiting trials at the 31st December, 1935. The remaining 458 cases were withdrawn, found false on enquiry, or dropped for lack of evidence.

The following table shows the increase or decrease in number of crimes reported and dealt with compared with the previous year :—

	Increase.	*Decrease.*
Cases reported to the Police	—	54
Cases brought before the magisterial Courts	—	91
Cases not proceeded with, handed to native Courts, etc.	37	—
Cases awaiting trial and under investigation	293	—

As a result of the above investigation 2,167 persons were proceeded against, which included 68 awaiting trial at the close of the year 1934. 116 of this number were females. 1,923 were arrested and 244 summoned to attend the Courts on charges of a criminal nature. 76 persons were arrested on behalf of the Union of South Africa for various crimes.

The following shows the increases and decreases in the number of persons dealt with as compared with the figures of the previous year :—

	Increase.	*Decrease.*
Persons proceeded against	—	490
Persons arrested	—	582
Persons summoned	92	—
Persons convicted summarily ...	—	232
Persons discharged	—	82
Persons committed for trial	—	208
Persons awaiting trial	—	46
Persons arrested on behalf of the Union	15	—

The following is a comparative table of crimes reported to the Police for the last four years :—

	1932.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*
Homicide	112	79	98	90
Other offences against the person	287	169	169	154
Offences against liquor laws ...	33	13	13	27
Offences against property ...	684	909	834	631
Other crimes	3,394	2,318	1,696	1,854
Total ...	4,510	3,488	2,810	2,756

Included under the heading " Other Crimes " are cases of Dagga (Indian hemp) smuggling. During the past year there were 66 prosecutions and 63 convictions for this offence as compared with 53 prosecutions and 52 convictions during the previous year.

It is gratifying to observe that there has been a general decrease in serious crimes during the year.

It is a pleasure to record that the relations with the Police in the Union of South Africa have been, as in the past, most cordial. Both forces have rendered valuable assistance to one another in the detection of crime.

Prisons.

There are gaols at the headquarters of each of the seven districts into which the territory is divided and in the sub-districts of Butha Buthe and Mokhotlong.

Buildings.—All gaol buildings are of stone with iron roofs and cement floors; the inmates are supplied with bed-boards on which to sleep. The majority of cells are built to contain on the average eight to ten prisoners, but there are usually one or two smaller ones for violent or dangerous inmates, or for occasional European convicts. Attached to each prison is an exercise yard and cement baths with water laid on. The cook-house is in the yard, and a daily scale of ration as laid down by statute is provided. As no special accommodation exists in the district gaols for female or European prisoners, they are invariably transferred to Maseru.

Health.—The health of the prisoners during 1935 has been good, the daily average on the sick list being 10. Six deaths were recorded during the year. All prisoners are medically examined on admission, and the Medical Officers make regular visits to the gaols, apart from the weekly inspection when they accompany the District Administrative Officer in charge. Prisoners reporting sick are taken to the Government dispensary, and if necessary are admitted to hospital where they are put into the ordinary public wards and treated on similar lines to other patients.

Discipline.—During 1935 breaches of prison discipline were few and escapes of prisoners numbered only 10. Until 1929 the large majority of convicts were stock thieves, persons committed for public violence in connexion with land disputes and a large percentage of persons convicted for offences against the revenue laws. For the most part they were not the habitual criminal type, and gaol discipline was therefore more or less easy to maintain. Unfortunately, since then, there has been an influx of the more criminal type owing to the deportation of bad characters from the Union, and their influence has already made itself felt in the gaols throughout the territory to the detriment of discipline.

Labour.—The policy commenced in 1931 of utilizing convicts to a greater extent on road construction and maintenance in the vicinity of the various Camps has been maintained. Where possible convicts are trained to become useful members of society on release, by instruction in such trades as masonry, carpentry, building and other kinds of manual labour.

Sentences.—The majority of offenders are given the option of paying a fine in lieu of imprisonment with hard labour. Pro-

vision has been made under Proclamation No. 55 of 1921 for the punishment of offenders in certain cases under which the Court may in its discretion—

(*a*) postpone for a period not exceeding six months the passing of sentence, and release the offender on one or more conditions; or

(*b*) pass sentence but order the operation of the sentence to be suspended for a period not exceeding three years on such conditions as the Court may specify in the order; or

(*c*) pass sentence of a fine or, in default of payment, imprisonment, but suspend the issue of a warrant committing the offender to a gaol in default of payment until the expiry of such a period not exceeding twelve months as the Court may fix for payment, in instalments or otherwise, of the amount of the fine or until default has been made.

Suspended sentences are awarded in cases of default of payment of tax and similar offences against the revenue laws.

Good conduct remission up to one-fourth of the sentence is allowed on all sentences of imprisonment for six months or more.

Statistics.—During the year under review, 2,609 persons passed through the various gaols in the territory, and of these 1,678 were committed to penal imprisonment. The corresponding figures for 1934 were 3,004 and 1,977 respectively.

Juvenile Offenders.—All juvenile prisoners are transferred to Leribe where they are kept segregated from adult prisoners so far as possible. The daily average number of juveniles in prison during 1935 was 18.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following is the more important legislation issued during 1935 by proclamation in the *Gazette*:—

(1) No. 18—Amending the Basutoland Prisons Proclamation (No. 21 of 1917).

(2) No. 19—The Basutoland Administration of Estates Proclamation, 1935.

(3) No. 20—The Basutoland Death Duties Proclamation, 1935.

(4) No. 24, No. 40 and No. 45—Amending the law relating to Stamp Duties in Basutoland.

(5) No. 28—Providing for the establishment of the office of Attorney-General for the High Commission Territories.

(6) No. 34—The Basutoland Trading Amendment Proclamation, 1935.

(7) No. 62—Amending the Basutoland Motor Vehicle Proclamation, 1926.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure for the past five financial years:—

REVENUE.

Head.	*1930–1.*	*1931–2.*	*1932–3.*	*1933–4.*	*1934–5.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Native Tax	125,665	116,783	121,795	90,017	129,312
Customs and Excise	77,810	80,842	86,161	90,040	104,442
Posts and Telegraphs	8,883	9,964	9,172	12,906	11,437
Licences	8,068	7,821	7,855	8,466	8,615
Fees of Court or Office	810	1,042	810	773	361
Judicial Fines	1,445	976	783	424	739
Income Tax	5,929	3,957	4,040	4,115	5,608
Poll Tax	—	—	—	1,265	1,345
Fees for Services Rendered ...	1,105	1,165	1,020	1,023	1,017
Interest	4,033	3,997	2,473	1,963	1,408
Wool Export Duty	25,436	19,265	678	8,107	6,786
Miscellaneous	8,654	8,040	22,094	12,155	12,422
Education Levy	13,963	13,017	13,853	10,340	14,766
Civil Servants, Salary Deductions	—	—	4,676	4,550	2,689
Colonial Development Fund ...	—	—	—	—	1,543
Totals	£281,801	£266,869	£275,410	£246,144	£302,490

EXPENDITURE.

Head.	*1930–1.*	*1931–2.*	*1932–3.*	*1933–4.*	*1934–5.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner	12,783	12,789	13,280	13,163	13,018
District Administration ...	15,333	15,121	15,596	16,157	16,874
Police	37,600	35,455	33,908	33,386	34,188
Administration of Justice ...	13,306	13,255	10,683	13,923	13,674
Posts and Telegraphs	12,004	11,027	14,065	10,949	10,599
Public Works Department ...	5,322	5,761	5,166	5,308	5,476
Public Works Extraordinary ...	5,168	345	39	493	986
Public Works Recurrent ...	29,774	20,516	17,949	20,645	25,493
Medical	28,202	25,394	24,507	25,712	26,605
Education	53,235	49,734	51,587	39,352	53,357
Lerotholi Technical School ...	5,772	5,541	5,195	5,515	6,503
Agriculture—					
Veterinary	39,140	23,630	12,799	12,598	12,944
Agricultural	6,849	5,751	7,184	7,351	8,664
Allowances to Chiefs	13,754	11,628	11,472	11,145	9,713
National Council	1,634	1,613	1,786	736	1,697
Leper Settlement	21,501	20,317	19,820	19,671	19,138
Pensions	12,726	11,242	11,760	14,562	13,962
Miscellaneous	7,225	6,758	6,243	40,910	15,399
Capital Expenditure	1,090	4,312	585	538	5,440
Colonial Development Fund ...	—	—	—	—	1,543
Totals	£322,418	£280,189	£263,624	£292,114	£294,973

Liabilities and Assets.

The surplus balance at the 31st March 1935 amounted to £40,725. £35,000 of the surplus balance is on loan to the Swaziland Government at 3½ per cent. per annum. This loan is repayable by 1943.

The detailed statement of Liabilities and Assets at the 31st March 1935 is as follows :—

Liabilities.	£	*Assets.*	£
Reserved Surplus (Fixed in terms of High Commissioner's telegram dated 13th March 1929) ...	70,000	Crown Agents, London, Deposit Account... ...	6,500
Crown Agents, London, Current Account	190	Standard Bank of S.A., Ltd., Current Account... ...	16,990
Guardian's Fund Deposit Account	14,385	Sub-Accountants' Balances	14,913
Sub-Accountants' Suspense Account	3,189	Advances recoverable ...	6,894
Stores Imprest Account ...	13,486	South African Railways and Harbours	56
Wool and Mohair Fund (*a*)	2,296	Swaziland Administration Loan	35,000
Basutoland Education Fund (*b*)	3,048	Stores Suspense Stock ...	7,753
Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland Tax Account	646	Bloemfontein Board of Executors and Trust Company, Ltd. (under Judicial Management)	283
Colonial Development Fund Account	207		88,389
Deposits (*c*)	10,217	Balance Liabilities over Assets	29,275
	£117,664		£117,664

(*a*) The Wool and Mohair Fund was established under Proclamation No. 39 of 1931 with funds received from the Union Government under Notice No. 1493 dated the 15th August 1930 in respect of wool and mohair exported from Basutoland together with amounts recovered from persons to whom live-stock or other articles have been supplied from moneys provided by the Fund. The proceeds of this Fund are devoted to the promotion of the future production of wool and mohair. During the year 1935, 663 pedigree rams were purchased for distribution amongst the Basuto at £2 each.

(*b*) *Basutoland Education Fund.*—The Government advanced an amount of £4,022 during the financial year 1933–4 in order to pay the grants to the Missionary Societies and the other annual commitments of the Fund. The receipts of the Fund for the 12 months ending the 31st March 1935 were £47,110 and, in addition to the usual grants, etc., permitted the repayment of the advance made by the Government, leaving a balance of £3,048 in hand. The revenue of the Fund is made up of a quarter of the Native Tax and 3s. contributed by every adult male native.

(*c*) *Deposits.*—An amount of £10,000 was donated by the Transvaal Chamber of Mines for welfare, etc., services in the High Commission Territories. £5,000 of this amount has been allocated to Basutoland, and the remaining £5,000 has been distributed between the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland. The capital sum was placed at interest during the year. A scheme is now under consideration to utilize the share allotted to Basutoland on the training of native nurse-aids and on welfare work in the territory.

Estimated Financial Position at the 31st March 1936.—It is anticipated that there will be a surplus of Revenue over Expenditure for the financial year 1935-6 of £20,000 and that the available surplus balances will amount to £60,725 at that date.

Description of Main Heads of Taxation.

Native Tax.

The rate of tax is 25s. for every adult male native domiciled in Basutoland and in addition 25s. for each wife after the first, but no native is liable for more than £3 15s. 0d. in any one year for himself and his wives.

The collection was £39,295 10s. 0d. more than in 1933-4 and was made up of £49,246 5s. 0d. Arrear, £79,400 Current (1934-5) and Advance (1935-6) Tax £666 5s. 0d. The drought and depression years account for the large amount of the Arrear Tax.

Customs and Excise.

An amount of £102,685 16s. 1d. was received from the Union Government under the Customs Agreement and represents ·88575 per cent. of the gross customs revenue of the Union of South Africa for the twelve months ended the 31st March 1935. Local collections on Union manufactured spirits and beer amount to £1,755 19s. 9d.

Licences.

There was no change in the rates paid for the various classes of licences during the year under review.

Income Tax.

The rates fixed for the Tax year ended the 30th June 1934 were the same as those for the previous year and were :—

(1) Normal Tax :

(*a*) In the case of companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, two shillings and sixpence.

(*b*) In the case of persons other than companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, one shilling and as many two-thousandths of a penny as there are pounds in that amount, subject to a maximum rate of two shillings in every pound.

(2) Super Tax :

(*a*) When the amount subject to super tax does not exceed twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, one shilling and as many five-hundredths of a penny as there are pounds in that amount.

(*b*) When the amount subject to super tax exceeds twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, five shillings.

The following abatements were deducted from the taxable income of any person, other than a company, for the purpose of determining the taxable amount:

Abatements:

(*a*) Primary £400.

(*b*) Life Insurance and similar Allowances. A deduction not exceeding £50 is made in respect of premiums paid during the period of assessment on policies under which the tax-payer, his wife or minor children are insured against death, accident or sickness.

(*c*) A deduction not exceeding £10 is allowed for fees or subscriptions paid during the period of assessment to any friendly or benefit society.

(*d*) £75 for each unmarried child or step-child who was alive during any portion of the year of assessment and was or would have been under the age of 21 years on the last day of the year of assessment.

(*e*) A sum of £30 for each dependant of the taxpayer.

The total of the abatements and allowances is reduced:—

(1) In the case of every such taxpayer (i) who during any portion of the period in respect of which the assessment is made was married; or (ii) who during the whole or any portion of the period in respect of which the assessment was made was divorced, but maintained during any portion of that period a child of his own or a step-child who was or would have been had he lived under the age of twenty-one years on the last day of the year of assessment in respect of which, or portion of which, the assessment is made, the reduction shall be by one pound for every completed ten pounds by which the taxable income of such person exceeds six hundred pounds or when the period assessed is less than twelve months, by which it exceeds so much of six hundred pounds as is proportionate to the period assessed: Provided that for the purpose of this paragraph any person who was a widow or widower during the whole or any portion of the period in respect of which the assessment is made shall be assessed as though he had been married throughout that period and any person who has been separated under a judicial order or written agreement throughout that period shall be assessed as though he had been divorced throughout that period.

(2) In the case of all other persons to whom paragraph (1) of this sub-section does not apply, the reduction shall be by one pound for every completed pound by which the taxable income of any such person exceeds three hundred pounds or, when the period assessed is less than twelve months by which it exceeds so much of three hundred pounds as is proportionate to the period assessed.

Companies.—In the case of Companies an abatement of £300, which is subject to reductions in accordance with paragraph (2) above.

Super Tax is payable (other than by a public company) on a taxable income exceeding in the aggregate £2,500 in any year of assessment. The taxable income of any person determined for normal tax purposes is the amount upon which the super tax is assessed.

There is an abatement of £2,500 and this is diminished by £1 for every £1 by which the income, subject to super tax, exceeds £2,500.

Dividends accruing to non-residents are exempt from super tax provided such dividends are not paid nor payable within the territory.

The sources from which taxable incomes were derived and the amount of tax paid for the tax years 1933 and 1934 are as follows :—

Source.	*1933.*	*1934.*
	£	£
General Traders	837	4,077
Civil Servants	1,557	786
Employed Persons	565	58
Others	560	597
Non-residents	596	90
	£4,115	£5,608

The numbers of incomes assessed for current tax and the total amount of taxable incomes in the categories shown are : —

Numbers.	*Categories.*	*Total of taxable Incomes.*
	£	£
14	500 and under	6,524
31	501-750	19,902
24	751-1,000	21,208
16	1,001-1,500	17,880
6	1,501-2,000	10,074
10	Over 2,000	37,111
101		£112,699

The following changes have been made in respect of the Tax Year ended the 30th June 1935 :—

The abatement has been increased from £75 to £100 for each child or step-child and by the deduction of 20 per cent. on the Tax assessed.

Stamp Duties and Fees on Documents Payable by Means of Stamps.

The duties and fees payable are specified in the Schedule to Proclamation No. 16 of 1907 as amended and are classified under the following heads :—

Arbitrations and Awards.
Bonds.
Courts of Law (District Commissioners' Courts).
Civil Cases (Resident Commissioner's Court).
Acts or Deeds of Donations.
Leases.
Master's Office : (*a*) Insolvency.
(*b*) Orphan Chamber.
Office Fees and Transfers and Miscellaneous.

Estate Duty is payable in terms of the Basutoland Death Duties Proclamation of 1935 at ½ per cent. upon the first £2,000 and up to 17 per cent. on £75,000 and over, and the rates of Succession Duty vary from 2 to 10 per cent.

Wool and Mohair Export Duty.

This duty was fixed at ¼d. per lb. for the period 1st April 1934 to 31st March 1935. The decreased collection as compared with the previous year's total is due to the large mortality in sheep and goats.

Poll Tax.

The rate is fixed at £2 per annum payable half-yearly on the 1st January and the 1st July by all adult males domiciled in Basutoland who are not liable to pay Native Tax. In the case of failure to pay any one instalment of the Tax within the period provided, a further sum of 2s. for each month or part of a month is payable.

Posts and Telegraphs.

The revenue amounted to £11,437 during the financial year ended 31st March 1935, and the expenditure to £10,599.

During the financial year 1934-5 postal and money orders to the value of £23,680 were issued and £31,845 paid.

The Union Post Office Savings Bank System is in operation in Basutoland and the following deposits and withdrawals at post offices in the territory were made during the financial year 1934-5 :—

	£
Deposits	26,635
Withdrawals	19,847

Basutoland has its own postage and revenue stamps. There are 11 denominations ranged in the following order, the first ten being postage and revenue stamps :—½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., and for revenue purposes only £1. The respective colours are green, red, purple, blue, grey, light brown, orange, dark brown, blue-purple, olive and black. One design only is used, which contains a pleasing vignette of His Majesty the King, placed above a scene depicting the Maluti mountains and the Orange River, while in the foreground is a representation of a crocodile—the emblem of the ruling house of Moshesh.

A special issue of stamps was made during the year to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of the reign of His Majesty, the late King George V.

Civil Servants' Salary Deductions.

The rate of deduction from the emoluments of European officers, less certain abatements, was reduced from 10 per cent. to 5 per cent. from the 1st July 1934, and 1¼ per cent. in the case of the native staff, when the amount involved is one shilling or more for each month.

Johannesburg Agency.

The Report on the Financial and Economic position of Basutoland dated January 1935 recommended the permanent establishment of this Agency (page 58) and all three High Commission Territories now participate and contribute towards the cost of maintenance.

Revenue is collected from the Basuto, Bechuana and Swazis working in the Transvaal industrial and mining areas, and the functions of the Agency are now extended to general welfare work. (A fuller report of the work of this Agency will be found under Section XVI, Labour.)

The total Revenue collections were :—

	£	s.	d.
Basutoland	38,162	18	0
Bechuanaland Protectorate	4,253	3	6
Swaziland	1,442	12	0
	43,858	13	6

The collections on behalf of the Bechuanaland Protectorate Administration commenced in May 1934 and in June 1934 for Swaziland.

XVI.—LABOUR.

The following table shows the number of passes issued during the past three years to enable natives to leave the territory to take up or seek employment in the Union of South Africa :—

	1933.	*1934.*	*1935.*
Mines :—Gold	25,731	22,994	29,502
Coal	72	156	472
Diamonds	—	220	83
Total Mines	25,803	23,370	30,057
Agriculture	15,237	6,700	5,584
Miscellaneous Labour	10,816	8,372	9,852
Totals	51,856	38,442	45,493

The gold mines play a large part in the economic position of the territory, employing annually large numbers of Basuto. At the close of the year 1935 over 41,000 Basuto were employed on these mines.

In addition to Basuto employed on the gold mines, there is a fairly large number in industrial employment in the Witwatersrand area. The number at the close of the year was approximately 10,000.

Many of the Basuto on the Witwatersrand remit money to their families in Basutoland through the Native Recruiting Corporation, Limited, and the Native Deposit and Remittance Agency, and a large percentage of the natives recruited for the mines defer a portion of their earnings for payment to them on their return to Basutoland. Many of them also make remittances through the post and it is estimated that an amount at least equal to the amount remitted through other channels is remitted in this way, though statistics cannot be obtained. During the year under review a sum of £90,875 was remitted by Basuto to their families through the Native Recruiting Corporation and a sum of £7,383 through the Native Deposit and Remittance Agency, whilst a total sum of £75,118 was paid out as deferred wages.

During the year 1932 an office was opened temporarily in Johannesburg for the purpose of collecting tax from Basutoland natives employed on the Witwatersrand. At the beginning of 1933 the Agency was re-opened and it has been maintained ever since. The Agency at first dealt only with the collection of revenue, but its functions were soon extended in the direction of dealing with the domestic affairs of the Basuto on the Witwatersrand, encouraging them to save money, giving them home news, counteracting as far as possible the demoralizing influence of their environment, repatriating those who are indigent and, generally, giving advice and assistance to them whenever required.

The Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland now share in the Agency which thus deals with natives from all three High Commission Territories, both in regard to the collection of taxes and in general welfare work.

APPENDIX.

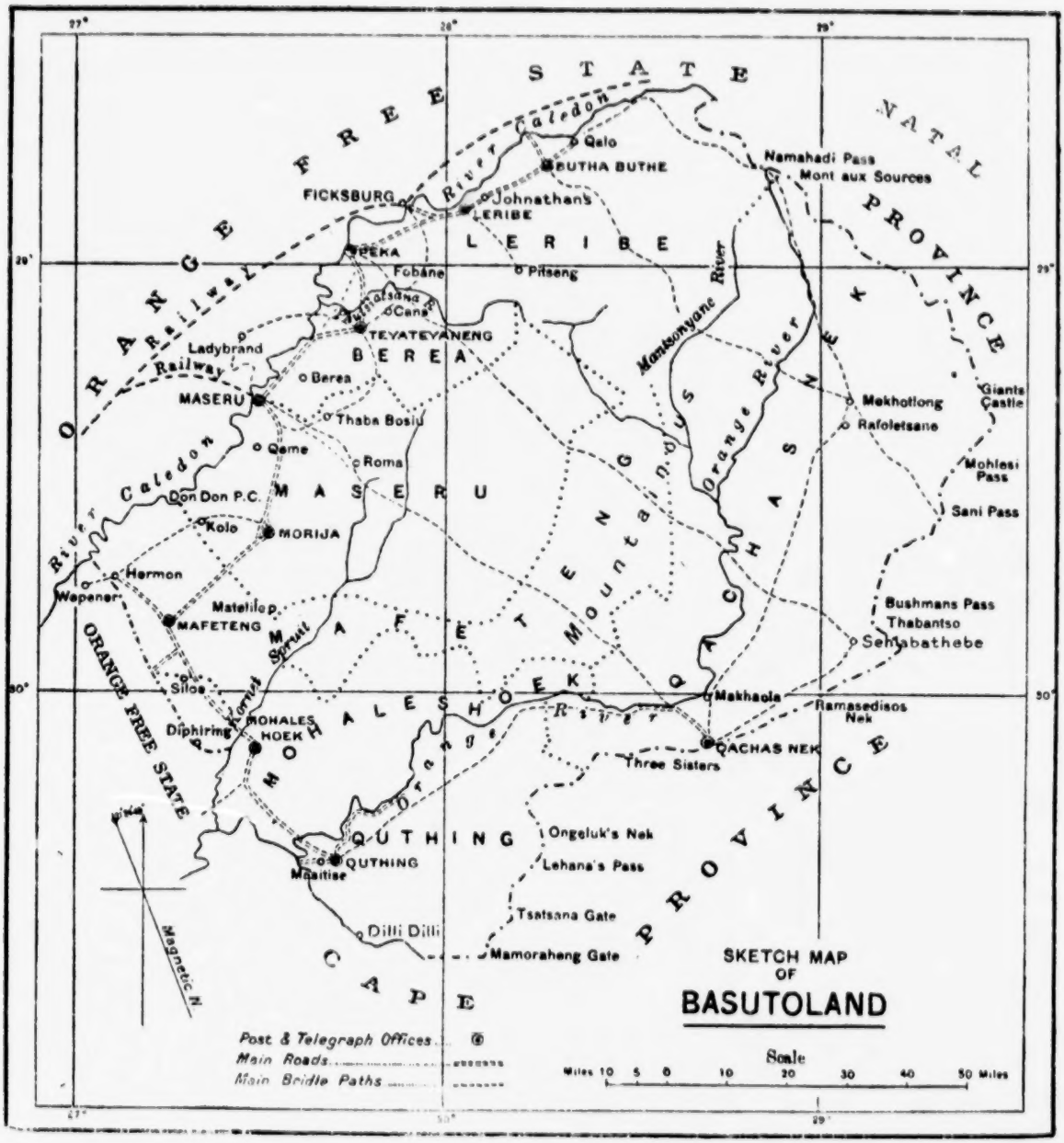
Publications relating to Basutoland.

"The Basutos" by Sir Godfrey Lagden, K.C.M.G., 2 vols.—Hutchinson.

"History of the Basuto"—D. F. Ellenberger and J. C. Macgregor.

"The Basuto of Basutoland"—E. A. T. Dutton—Jonathan Cape.

Report on the Financial and Economic Position of Basutoland (Cmd. 4907) His Majesty's Stationery Office ... ... 3*s.* 6*d.*



SKETCH MAP OF **BASUTOLAND**

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Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

MIGRATION.

Report to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Migration Policy. [Cmd. 4689.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*)

MALTA.

Report of Royal Commission, 1931. [Cmd. 3993.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 11*d.*).

Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5*s.* (5*s.* 9*d.*).

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3717.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3718.] 4*s.* (4*s.* 4*d.*).

Report of the Conference on Standardisation. (Including Resolutions adopted by the Imperial Conference). [Cmd. 3716.] 3*d.* (3½*d.*).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

KENYA.

Native Affairs Department Annual Report for 1932. 3s. (3s. 4d.).

Report by the Financial Commissioner (Lord Moyne) on Certain Questions in Kenya. May, 1932. [Cmd. 4093.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

KENYA, UGANDA, AND THE TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Railway Rates and Finance. Report by Mr. Roger Gibb, September, 1932. [Cmd. 4235.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 7*d.*).

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission. [Cmd. 4182.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 8*d.*).

East African Agricultural Research Station, Amani. Sixth Annual Report, 1933-34. [Colonial No. 100.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commission, March, 1933. [Cmd. 4368.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

SWAZILAND.

Financial and Economic Situation. Report of Commission. [Cmd. 4114.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 9*d.*).

MALAYA.

Report of Brigadier-General Sir S. H. Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit during 1932. [Cmd. 4276.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

SEYCHELLES.

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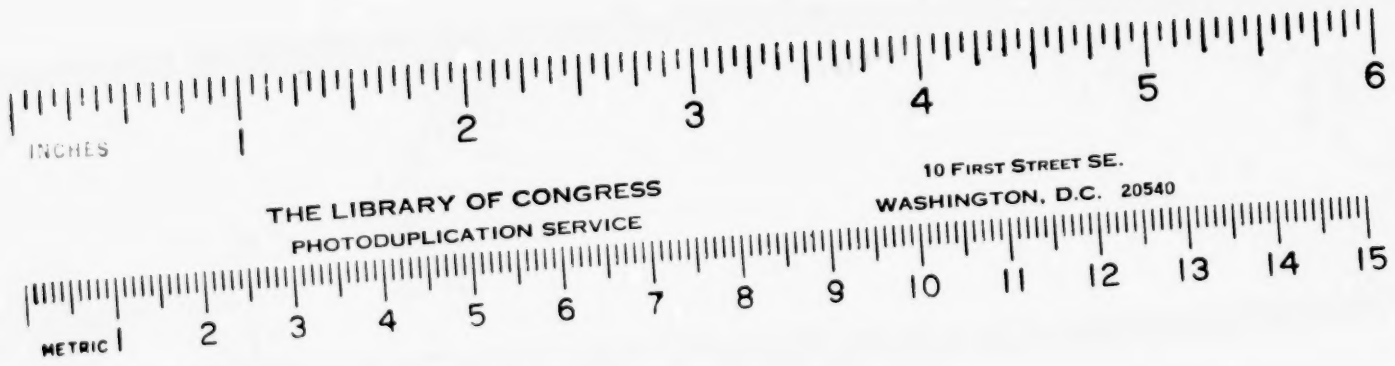
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No. 1804

.al Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

BASUTOLAND, 1936

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Continued on page 3 of cover

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BASUTOLAND FOR THE YEAR 1936

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Basutoland is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, and on the south by the Cape Province. Its area is 11,716 square miles. It lies between 28° 35′ and 30° 40′ south latitude and between 27° and 29° 30′ east longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 ft. to 11,000 ft. above sea level. The Maluti Mountains, which occupy most of the territory to the east, were in former years reserved for grazing purposes but, owing to the pressure in the lowlands where the bulk of the population is concentrated this more or less inaccessible area has become comparatively thickly populated. One result of this occupation of the mountain area is the disappearance of big game, such as eland and hartebeest, which used to abound, and the gradual elimination of small game and birds.

The climate is dry and bracing with extremes of heat and cold both seasonal and diurnal. High altitude, electric tension and long periods of strong sunshine without clouds or rain necessitate for European residents periodic changes to the coast level where the air is more humid.

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The temperature varies from a maximum of 93° F. to a minimum of 11° F. The rainfall is capricious, the average being approximately 30 inches per annum, but it fluctuates much above and below this figure. The rainfall in 1936 recorded at the different stations in the Territory varied between 32·90 and 25·10 inches.

The Basuto as a nation did not come into prominence until 1818 when Moshesh, a minor chief of the Bakwena tribe in North Basutoland, gathered together the remnants of the various clans that had been scattered by the raids of the Zulu and Matabele.

The new nation went through many vicissitudes of fortune, first with the emigrant Boers of the Great Trek, and then with the British under General Cathcart in 1852. From 1856 until 1868 there was a series of wars with the Orange Free State burghers and, being hard pressed and having lost a large portion of his country (now known as " the Conquered Territory "), Moshesh sought the protection of the British Government. This was granted and carried into effect by Sir Philip Wodehouse, the Governor of the Cape, by a Proclamation dated the 12th March, 1868.

It is interesting to note that, although Moshesh asked for British protection, the Basuto were received as British subjects and not as protected subjects by the Proclamation of 1868, part of which reads:—

> " Now therefore, I do hereby proclaim and declare that from and after publication hereof the said tribe of Basuto shall be taken to be British subjects, and the territory of the said tribe shall be taken to be British territory."

The country remained in a very unsettled condition until it was annexed to the Cape Colony by an Act of the Cape Legislature, No. 12 of 1871. The Act expressly declared that the territory was not to be subject to the general laws of the Colony, and gave the Governor power to legislate for it by proclamation and to extend to it by proclamation any Cape Act not otherwise in force therein.

The people never took kindly to the Cape Colonial rule, and after various disturbances the Government of the Cape, in 1880, extended to Basutoland the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878, which included a clause for the general disarmament of the Basuto. They refused to accept the terms and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at under which the Act was repealed and certain fines paid by the tribe.

Although outwardly peace was restored, there still remained several chiefs who would not submit, and it was eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to hand over the

administration to the Imperial Government. This was effected by Order in Council of 2nd February, 1884, which was proclaimed and brought into force by Proclamation No. 75A of 18th March, 1884. This Proclamation defined the boundaries of the Territory and restored it to the direct control of the Queen through Her Majesty's High Commissioner for South Africa.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Territory is governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland, the latter possessing legislative authority, which is exercised by proclamation promulgated in the official *Gazette*. The Financial Secretary, who is also Treasurer, prepares the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure and the Annual Accounts. Until 1931 the office of the High Commissioner was held by the Governor-General of the Union of South Africa, but with the close of the Earl of Athlone's period of office the two posts were separated.

For administrative purposes the country is divided into seven districts under District Commissioners: Maseru, Leribe (including the sub-district of Butha Buthe), Teyateyaneng, Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek, Quthing and Qasha's Nek (with the sub-district of Mokhotlong). These districts are divided into chiefdoms and sub-chiefdoms presided over by the hereditary chiefs and sub-chiefs allied to the Moshesh family who are responsible to the Paramount Chief in all matters relating to native law and custom.

In 1903 there was established a Basutoland Council in place of the National Pitso which was previously held once every year. Its constitution and functions are defined by Proclamation No. 7 of 31st March, 1910. The Council consists of 100 members, including the Paramount Chief as Chief Councillor, with the Resident Commissioner as President. The Resident Commissioner nominates five members and the remaining 94 are nominated by the Paramount Chief and confirmed in their appointments by the Resident Commissioner. The Council exists for the discussion of the domestic affairs of the Territory.

The 1936 Council which was held in November was productive of much useful discussion. Addresses, followed by discussion and questions, were given by the Principal Medical Officer, the Director of Agriculture, and the Director of Education, and were greatly appreciated. Motions by Councillors were followed by full debates on the questions of soil erosion, dosing of sheep, stock theft, agricultural matters, village water supplies, leprosy, plague and other diseases, rodents, education, native taxation and native trading.

III.—POPULATION.

A census was taken in May 1936, of which the preliminary figures are to hand. The following comparative figures for the years 1921 and 1936 indicate the increase and distribution of the population:—

District.	*Europeans.*		*Bantu.*		*Coloured other than Bantu.*	
	1921.	*1936.*	*1921.*	*1936.*	*1921.*	*1936.*
Leribe	260	204	107,794	132,269	211	522
Berea	132	94	56,674	55,506	136	119
Maseru	612	583	99,378	108,231	266	331
Mafeteng	262	189	67,279	70,863	221	248
Mohale's Hoek ...	159	150	60,568	65,329	281	229
Quthing	115	106	38,051	44,568	96	70
Qacha's Nek ...	63	108	66,193	82,611	30	81
	1,603	1,434	495,937	559,377	1,241	1,600
Absentees	—	—	47,141	101,273	—	—
Total	1,603	1,434	543,078	660,650	1,241	1,600

The 101,273 absentees shown above are the natives who are outside the Territory at various employment centres, farms, etc.

Including absentees, the increase is at the rate of 1·44 per cent. per annum.

The following is a comparative statement of the density of the population (other than European) at the censuses of 1911, 1921, and 1936 (preliminary):—

	1911.	*1921.*	*1936.*
Number of persons per square mile ...	34·41	42·44	47·99
Number of acres per head of population	18·60	15·08	13·33
Number of occupied huts per square mile.	10·86	16·99	20·42
Number of persons to each occupied hut	3·61	2·84	2·35

There is no compulsory registration of births, deaths, or marriages according to native custom. Marriages according to Christian rites numbered 1,040 during the year under review, compared with 1,052 in 1935.

IV.—HEALTH.

The medical staff of the Territory consists of a Principal Medical Officer, eight Medical Officers, one Assistant Medical Officer, and one District Surgeon. A Medical Officer is stationed at each district headquarters, and the Assistant Medical Officer and District Surgeon at the two sub-district headquarters.

An important change in the medical personnel has been the appointment of Dr. Motebang, M.B., Ch.B., to the full-time

post of Assistant Medical Officer at the Mokhotlong Sub-District where he has for several years held the part-time post of District Surgeon. This is the first qualified Mosuto doctor to be appointed to the permanent medical staff.

There are five Government general hospitals staffed by qualified European nurses with native attendants, and three smaller cottage hospitals staffed by native nurses. The total number of hospital beds available for the Territory is 156 for natives and 12 for Europeans. At each of the district headquarters a daily dispensary clinic is conducted by the Medical Officer. Trained natives dispense the medicines prescribed by the Medical Officers.

The following developments were initiated during the year:—

(*a*) Training of native nurses at Maseru Hospital, the course being one approved for the three High Commission Territories in South Africa.

(*b*) Extension of the Qacha's Nek Hospital to give accommodation to 28 patients instead of 14 as at present, and with facilities for major surgery.

(*c*) Construction of buildings at Mokhotlong so that eight in-patients can be treated under hospital conditions; up to the present there was no provision for in-patients.

(*d*) A weekly dispensary at Morija (25 miles from Maseru) conducted by the Medical Officer of Maseru. It was opened in October, and the recent attendances at each weekly visit have averaged over 80 patients.

There were 82,723 attendances at the Government dispensaries during the year. Of these 54,015 were first attendances, and 28,708 subsequent attendances. The number of attendances showed an increase of 15,407 as compared with the year 1935.

The total number of in-patients treated in the Government hospitals in 1936 was 3,236 as compared with 3,251 in 1935. The following table shows the details of work carried out at the hospital and dispensary of each district and sub-district:—

District.	*Hospital.*	*Dispensary.*	
	In-Patients.	*First Attendances.*	*Total Attendances.*
Maseru	991	10,101	18,577
Leribe	699	10,541	15,315
Mafeteng	505	8,947	13,705
Mohale's Hoek	422	5,674	7,867
Qacha's Nek	265	5,690	8,301
Quthing	252	4,360	7,690
Teyateyaneng	102	6,202	7,768
Mokhotlong	—	2,500	3,500
Total	3,236	54,015	82,723

The following table indicates the prevalence of the more common infectious diseases in 1936 as compared with the year 1935:—

Disease.	1935.	1936.
Influenza	1,550	551
Typhoid Fever	127	183
Dysentery	53	67
Typhus Fever	192	51
Whooping Cough	257	413
Measles	476	97
Smallpox	—	—
Scarlet Fever	11	11
Diphtheria	11	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	549	496
Pellagra	147	242
Plague	—	17

From this table it will be noticed that except for whooping cough none of the infectious diseases assumed epidemic proportion. It is the first time on record that human plague has been diagnosed in the Territory. In the Annual Report for 1935 attention was drawn to localised occurrences of rodent plague on the south-west border of the Territory. In January, 1936, it was found that a widespread epidemic of rodent plague had broken out among the field rodents (gerbilles) in the Mafeteng and Mohale's Hoek districts. The epidemic very rapidly spread along the western border of the Territory, and by March it had reached the most northerly sub-district (Butha Buthe). 90 per cent of the gerbilles were exterminated. Contrary to apprehension, except for 17 cases of human plague in three neighbouring villages, plague did not spread from the field rodents to the human inhabitants. Prompt measures prevented the spread of human plague from the three vilages of the Mafeteng district in which the 17 cases occurred. Five months after the rodent plague epidemic it was observed that gerbilles had bred up very rapidly and again constituted a serious menace to the food crops of the natives, and a widespread potential source of plague. An extensive campaign covering over 1,000 square miles was undertaken by the combined efforts of the Agricultural and Medical Departments, with the co-operation of Chiefs and people, to reduce the field rodent population by means of poisoned wheat. These measures were extremely satisfactory, and by the end of the year very sparse activity was encountered in areas which prior to the campaign were riddled with burrows.

It is worth noting that typhus fever which for several years had been a major problem culminating in the epidemic of 1933-34, has practically disappeared from the Territory. The 51 cases reported in 1936 are accounted for by an outbreak in one village near Mohale's Hoek, and a more widespread out-

break in the Quacha's Nek district. In each case prompt and energetic measures of quarantine and doverminization stopped further spread. The rest of the Territory has been free of the disease. The number of cases of tuberculosis, which for ten years prior to 1935 had remained stationary, showed an increase in 1935. The figures for 1936 show no appreciable diminution. There is very little doubt that the drought and severe starvation of the Basuto in 1933 lowered their resistance to disease, and as a result a larger number have contracted tubercular infection.

A large proportion of the Basuto show signs of malnutrition, particularly among children whose diet is lacking in milk. There is generally a sufficient supply of carbohydrate foods to satisfy hunger, but there is a general shortage in their diet of fats, proteins and vitamins. The lack of a well-balanced diet is shown in the increasing number of cases of pellagra which are treated at the dispensaries and in the hospitals. In 1936 there were 242 cases of pellagra as compared with 147 in 1935 and 76 in 1934. The Government is making strenuous efforts to counteract the deficiencies in the Basuto's diet. Peasants are being urged to grow vegetables for their own consumption and vegetable seeds are being issued free of charge.

Though syphilis and gonorrhoea are widespread throughout the Territory a comparison of numbers treated for these conditions at the dispensaries over a ten-year period would seem to indicate that there is a diminution in the number of new infections, but a relative increase in the congenital or hereditary type. Free treatment for venereal diseases is given at all Government dispensaries, and during the year under review the Natives were more willing to accept treatment by arsenical preparations than they have been in the past.

Diseases peculiar to the tropics and sub-tropical countries, such as malaria, sleeping sickness etc., do not occur in Basutoland, which is entirely free of anopheline mosquitoes, tsetse fly and other vectors of tropical diseases.

During 1936 an important advancement of medical services in Basutoland has been the effort of Missions to inaugurate properly conducted Medical Missions. The Roman Catholic Mission have built a hospital at Roma and are building another in the mountains at Ntaote's. They will be in charge of qualified doctors. The Paris Evangelical Missionary Society will in 1937 build a hospital at Morija; it will also be in charge of a qualified doctor.

Leprosy and Leper Settlement.

The population of the Leper Settlement on the 31st of December, 1936, was 684, as compared with 707 in 1935 and 728 in 1934. Ninety-nine new cases of leprosy were admitted as compared with 116 in 1935 and 102 cases in 1934. The six Native Leprosy Inspectors appointed in 1929 are stationed in different

parts of the Territory and tour from village to village for the purpose of examining all persons showing any signs of leprosy. The value of this organization is shown by the fact that cases are now brought to the Asylum while the disease is at an early stage, and therefore much more likely to be cured by appropriate treatment. Indeed so mild are many of the cases that only an expert would diagnose leprosy. The following comparative table supports this statement:—

Year.	*Duration of the disease in months on admission to the Settlement.*		
	1–12 Months.	*13–24 Months.*	*Over 2 years.*
1924	31 per cent.	37 per cent.	32 per cent.
1929	41 ,,	24·5 ,,	34·5 ,,
1935	59·8 ,,	22·4 ,,	17·8 ,,
1936	55 ,,	18·6 ,,	25·6 ,,

An encouraging feature is that suspected cases are readily presented to the Inspectors for examination and if certified as lepers they go willingly to the Settlement, because there is now a widespread feeling among the tribe that the institution is a place where their disease is cured, and they no longer regard it as a form of imprisonment, as they did for several years after compulsory segregation was first established in 1914. This confidence is due to the number of cases which having been admitted at an early stage are discharged with the disease cured or arrested after a comparatively short period of residence. Sixty-eight patients were discharged in 1936 with the disease cured or arrested as compared with 58 in 1935.

In November and December of 1936 the Medical Officer of the Leper Asylum made a survey of those parts of the districts of Qacha's Nek and Quthing in which the incidence of leprosy is the highest in the whole territory. He examined over 13,000 individuals, among whom he found 42 extremely slight cases of leprosy, of which 38 were neural and only four cutaneous. A considerable proportion of the neural cases appear to have become spontaneously arrested, and will not be admitted to the Asylum. Such patients are examined by the Medical Admission Board at Maseru, their nasal smears are examined for leprosy bacilli, if negative the macules are delimited by intradermal injection, they are then sent home to be registered and kept under the control of the district Medical Officer by periodic examination clinically and bacteriologically.

V.—HOUSING.

There are no factories or industrial undertakings in Basutoland, and the problem of the proper accommodation of workers has not arisen.

The Basuto live in villages under tribal authority and their huts are, on the whole, healthy, if primitive. These huts are built of sods or stone, with a mud floor and thatched roof; and the average number of persons to each hut occupied is 2·35 in 1936 as compared with 2·84 in 1921.

The small European population consists of civil servants, missionaries and traders, and is, as a rule, well housed in buildings of cut stone or brick.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

There are no fisheries, and no mining operations are carried out in Basutoland.

Production is dealt with under two heads—Agriculture and Animal Husbandry.

Agriculture.

Land Tenure.

With the exception of the Government Reserves and land provided for the various missions, all land in Basutoland is held by the people under the communal system. In actual practice there is a difference in the application of the system to grazing land and to cultivated land. All grazing land, including the grazing on cultivated land after the crops are removed, is strictly communal. The arable or cultivated land while remaining the property of the nation is granted to family heads under the ancient and well-known " three field " system. In Basutoland there is no recognized or standard acreage laid down with regard to the size of these fields, they vary according to the amount of arable land available; for example, those allowed in the lowlands vary in size from those allowed in the highlands. The standing of the individual is also taken into consideration. The usual size of a field for commoners in the mountains is estimated at an average of two acres, and in the lowlands at three acres.

Meteorological Conditions.

The rainfall and certain general meteorological conditions appear under Chapter I. It is necessary, however, to mention certain points to indicate the effect of rainfall and frost on crop production during the period under review. Good early spring rains fell in 1935 which provided an auspicious opening to the crop season and resulted in extensive ploughing and seeding operations. Unfortunately an exceptionally dry September followed, and as the season advanced the showers that fell were not sufficiently heavy to induce successful germination and crop growth, with the result that many fields had to be re-ploughed and re-sown. These late planted crops were subjected to various set-backs. Unseasonable frosts occurred on the 15th November, 1935, and on the 20th January, 1936. These frosts caused considerable damage, particularly to mountain maize and wheat;

and at the same time the crops were attacked, to an abnormal extent, but cut-worm and stalk-borer, resulting in great damage and delayed maturity. Finally, during March the weather was too cool to permit of rapid maturing, with the result that many field were destroyed by frosts at the beginning of April. There is no doubt that the people made every effort to overcome these difficulties. The co-operated in the loan of draught animals and they re-planted their fields in some instances as many as three times during the season. But in spite of this co-operation and the increased acreage under cultivation, the adverse meteorological conditions resulted in a low yield, particularly of maize and sorghum, and had it not been for the fact that the wheat, barley and pea crops were fairly good, starvation might have resulted.

Pasture.

In spite of the adverse meteorological conditions with regard to crop production, the pasture throughout the country was good, mainly owing to the fact that the Territory is at present under-stocked.

Agricultural Production.

The standard crops in the Territory are maize, wheat and sorghum. It was noticeable, however, that during the year under review a far greater area was laid down to peas, beans, barley, oats and vegetables, including potatoes. This variation in crop production is of great benefit to the land as it permits of a better rotation of crops and will naturally benefit the health of the people. Until recently maize and sorghum formed the staple diet of the Basuto, but wheat, peas and particularly barley are now being used to a far greater extent than in the past. The increased consumption of wheat was very marked, assisted undoubtedly by the shortage of maize. This is a desirable feature, particularly owing to the fact that wheat is a better food than maize in averting troubles like pellagra.

The approximate acreage planted to the different crops during 1936 and the returns secured are as follows:—

Crop.	*Acreage sown.*	*Crops reaped. Bags of 200 lb.*	*Remarks.*
Maize	249,941	491,144	It was estimated that approximately the same acreage was cultivated as in 1935.
Wheat	124,970	245,572	More wheat than usual was sown and less sorghum.
Sorghum	93,729	184,179	
Barley and Other crops	31,242	61,393	

Maize.—Owing to the short growing season in Basutoland every endeavour is being made to introduce early maturing varieties of maize. As a result of experiments, two varieties known as " Bushman " and " Mazena Bread " have

given good results, and a quantity of seed of these varieties has been produced and distributed. The " Bushman ", which is the earliest variety, is distributed in the mountain area, and while it is not a very heavy cropper, owing to its extremely early maturing, it is expected, from the results secured up to the present, that in most seasons it will give a good yield at fairly high altitudes.

Sorghum.—A number of local and imported varieties of sorghum have been tested on the experimental plots at Maseru, with a view to securing a variety or varieties that will mature early and at the same time give a fair yield of good grain. Varieties introduced from Swaziland give great promise as they are several weeks earlier than the earliest local varieties. These will be multiplied next season and distributed.

Wheat.—The mountain area of Basutoland is the main wheat producing part of the Territory, and owing to climatic and soil conditions has proved exceedingly suitable for the production of strong wheats. Strong wheats having a gluten content of 12 per cent. to 14 per cent. are in demand in the Union, and therefore attention has been concentrated on the production of those varieties showing the necessary strength and which have proved sufficiently rust resistant under the climatic conditions which prevail in this Territory. " Marquis ", one of the best Canadian strongs, is now being extensively sown as a result of seed distribution by the Government.

With a view to furthering the production of strong wheats, nine of the best varieties were secured from the Canadian Government and are at present under test at the Maseru experimental station. There are also several local varieties which have given good results, and the production of these, like Marquis, is being extended.

A range of samples of Basutoland wheat are sent annually to the Stellenbosch-Elsenburg Agricultural College to be tested for their baking and milling qualities, and it is as a result of these tests that a decision is arrived at as to whether the wheats tested are sufficiently strong to merit their production on a large scale. It is satisfactory to note that Marquis, after having been grown for four years in Basutoland, still maintains its inherent good qualities.

Barley.—Barley can be planted later than wheat and grows well at high altitudes. It proved a useful crop to the people in the mountains in 1936, when it was sown extensively to take the place of maize which had been destroyed by frost; excellent crops were harvested. Far more barley is now used for human consumption, and in 1936 very little was exported.

Peas and Beans.—Comparatively slow progress has been made with regard to the production of beans in the lowlands and, up to the present, the crop has not been very successful

in the mountains. Peas, on the other hand, are now sown extensively in the mountain districts, and a good crop was secured in 1936, most of which was utilized by the people as food instead of being exported. From the agricultural point of view the pea crop is now becoming a very useful item in rotation with wheat and, like wheat, gives an excellent cover on the steep mountain fields during the season of high rainfall and prevents the surface erosion which takes place with crops like maize and sorghum.

Vegetable Production.—The production of vegetables is making rapid progress as is indicated by the following figures:—During 1935 there were 339 gardens, and in 1936 809 gardens were being worked under the supervision of the native demonstrators. Not only was there an increase of 470 gardens but, in accordance with the advice given by the Government, the gardens were well laid out and were in the majority of cases, terraced wherever this was necessary, and provided with small dams and compost pits. The production of vegetables in every village in Basutoland is the object aimed at, with a view to improving the diet of the people and the utilization of badly eroded ground in and around the villages. It is also realized that the production of a large amount of food in these small gardens will result in the liberation for sale of a greater quantity of the standard crops such as wheat, maize and sorghum. It is also thought that the terracing of the gardens and the high return secured from such terraced land will gradually induce the people to undertake terracing operations on a large scale in connection with their field crops, with the result that all possibility of erosion in the terraced areas will be arrested. In order to increase the interest in this branch of farming, a certain amount of free seed has been provided and small prizes given for the best garden in each village where ten or more gardens are entered for competition.

Maseru Experimental Station.

The wheat and other crops planted during the spring of 1935 and harvested in the late summer and autumn of 1936 produced some excellent results, but it would be dangerous even to generalize on these results until the tests have been repeated for a further period of three to five years, depending upon the nature of the experiment. The principal items dealt with were:—

(*a*) The testing of strong wheats for yield, disease resistance, etc.

(*b*) The testing of maize and kaffir corn varieties, primarily for early maturity.

(*c*) The testing of a great variety of grasses, particularly stoloniferous varieties, for use in connection with anti-erosion works.

(*d*) The production of fruit trees for use in connection with the vegetable and horticultural scheme.

(*c*) The production of *Robinia pseudocacia* and other trees which coppice rapidly.

Agricultural Demonstration Work.

Twenty-six native Agricultural Demonstrators are employed in the Territory. These men work under the supervision of the Agricultural Officers in the lowlands and the Livestock Officers in the mountains. In the majority of cases, in spite of the adverse season, fair crops were obtained from the demonstration plots, the results being infinitely better than those secured from the fields worked by the natives. These plots served as an excellent demonstration in favour of good agricultural methods.

In addition to the garden plots mentioned under the section "Vegetable Production", demonstrators worked the following number of field plots:—

Wheat, including Manitoba.	*Maize.*	*Sorghum.*	*Potatoes, Peas and Beans.*
688	367	22	19

Forestry and Fruit Production.

During the year, fruit and forestry trees were issued in connection with terraced gardens and for planting in areas where anti-erosion works were completed. In this connection 11,481 trees were planted. Free issue of *Robinia pseudocacia* seed was made to all natives who were willing to plant it with a view to establishing small plantations in and around their villages. Every effort is being made to extend the planting of trees that coppice readily, with a view to supplying timber for hut building and for fuel. The latter is a most important point. At present most of the cow and sheep manure is used as fuel for heating purposes, to the detriment of agriculture, but an adequate timber supply would overcome this otherwise unavoidable destruction of good manure.

Soil Erosion.

Anti-erosion work on a small scale was started in 1935 and was pushed forward steadily, still on a relatively small scale, during the first nine months of 1936. The work is now being rapidly extended as a result of receiving a loan of £160,233 for this purpose from the Colonial Development Fund. During the year 1,683½ acres were treated at Matsieng, near the Paramount Chief's home, which is one of the worst eroded areas in Basutoland owing to the heavy concentration of stock which takes place at this centre. Seventy miles of contour banks and 22 dams were constructed in this section. In the Maseru Reserve 641 acres were treated. The contour banks at Maseru

cover a distance of 31,187 yards. Two dams were constructed, one with a capacity of 300,000 gallons of water and the other 7,000,000 gallons.

The pasture in the area treated during 1935 shows wonderful improvement, and even in areas where the work was completed before the spring rains of 1936 the improvement is very noticeable.

Ecological Survey.

A loan of £3,070 was received from the Colonial Development Fund for carrying out a detailed ecological survey, after the completion of the survey, for conducting grassland experiments in the Territory.

The survey party, consisting of an ecologist, geologist and a surveyor, commenced operations on the 2nd October, 1936. Owing to the extremely mountainous nature of the country, over three-quarters of the work has to be performed on horseback and on foot; the work will, therefore, not be completed until some time in 1937. This detailed survey will supply information on which will be based pasture management for the future and will, undoubtedly, disclose many features of great importance with regard to measures to be taken to combat the spread of erosion.

Rodent Destruction.

This question has been dealt with under Chapter IV, but it is of interest to state that sufficient bait was prepared and used to destroy approximately 12,000,000 rodents. The quantities of wheat, strychnine, etc., used were as follows:—

279 ounces of Strychnine
54 bags of Wheat (10,800 lbs.)
760 lbs. Common Sugar
40,000 match boxes
20,000 small strong paper containers.

Locusts.

There were no visitations of the brown locust to the Territory during the period under review. There were a few small swarms of hoppers of the red-wing locusts, which bred from eggs deposited in 1935, but these were all destroyed before reaching maturity.

Animal Husbandry.

In retrospect the year 1936 can be considered a prosperous one inasmuch as it was associated with the inauguration of a number of progressive measures in connection with animal husbandry which should in time increase the spending power of the people. These livestock improvement schemes will be dealt with under various headings. Fortunately during the year favourable climatic conditions prevailed which in no small measure facilitated the activities of the Veterinary Department.

Sheep and Goats.

The Territory still enjoys freedom from scab. This happy position has given an impetus to the various schemes connected with small stock improvement which could not otherwise have been attempted.

The measures for the improvement of the sheep and wool industry mentioned in the 1935 Report were consolidated and extended by—

(1) The introduction of a law requiring all owners to dose their sheep and goats with an approved remedy once a month, under the supervision of the veterinary staff.

Dosing operations commenced on the 1st April, 1936, and for the period April to December inclusive 3,711,670 doses were administered. The co-operation accorded by native sheep-farmers to the veterinary staff in carrying out this extraordinarily difficult undertaking is an outstanding instance, amongst many, of the support given to difficult undertakings by the Paramount Chief and his people. The difficulties which surrounded this undertaking will be more clearly realised by those concerned with native administration when the fact is mentioned that all the dosing material was paid for by the native sheep-farmers.

(2) The emasculation of all bastard and Persian rams throughout the Territory. The elimination of undesirable rams was, under an instruction issued by the Paramount Chief, largely carried out by the people, with the result that the veterinary staff were only called upon in connection with this duty to the extent of emasculating 8,295 rams. With the exception of possibly one or two isolated instances, Basutoland has now been cleared of the type of ram which was doing great harm to the production of true merino wool.

(3) The introduction of selected merino rams to replace the bastard rams mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

In October, 1935, 666 good merino rams were imported into the territory; these were acclimatized for a period of six months and were then made available for purchase by native farmers at cost price. The majority of these rams were disposed of before the end of 1936. In October, 1936, a further 307 rams were imported for distribution from March, 1937 onwards. Further consignments will be introduced from year to year to meet the requirements of the people. The high quality rams already introduced are sufficient to serve 50,000 ewes annually.

(4) Classification of wool in pursuance of the policy laid down to prove to the people that the sorting of wool pays. Further experiments were conducted during 1936 in the Quthing and Mafeteng districts. The results secured, as in 1935, proved indisputably that correct classing pays the producer handsomely; with the result that many applications have been

received from native sheep-farmers from all over the country for this work to be performed. A loan provided from the Colonial Development Fund of £2,800 is being utilized for placing this work on a sound basis.

The first wool-classing shed was completed before the end of the year and others are in course of construction. Portable equipment for use in the mountain areas has also been acquired, and in the spring of 1937 wool-classing will be carried out on a considerable scale.

Census.—A small stock census was taken during the year and this revealed a far smaller decrease than has occurred for a number of years; in fact it may be safely stated that the tide has turned, and there is little doubt that the improvement recorded is largely due to the dosing of all small stock once a month which has cut down the heavy mortality due to internal parasites, particularly amongst the lambs.

1934.	The total number of sheep and goats was			2,000,200.
1935.	,,	,,	,,	1,717,826—decrease 282,374.
1936.	,,	,,	,,	1,674,964—decrease 42,862.

Wool and Mohair Export.—Full particulars of the wool and mohair exported during 1936 are given under " Exports " in Chapter VII.

Cattle.

The general inoculation of all cattle against anthrax has been continued, and the position with regard to this disease has definitely improved. All cattle, with the exception of those depastured on known anthrax infected areas, are inoculated once in every 12 months; those located on infected areas are inoculated bi-annually. No cattle are allowed into the Territory unless they have been inoculated immediately prior to entry.

With a view to improving the cattle in the Territory the following steps were taken:—

(1) The introduction of scrub bulls was prohibited and the emasculation of inferior bulls on a voluntary basis undertaken. During the year under review, 1,799 undesirable bulls were disposed of by the Veterinary and Agricultural staff. The policy of the elimination of undesirable bulls on the voluntary system will be pursued in the future as it has been during 1936.

(2) A scheme known as the " Bull Camp Scheme " was introduced with a view to improving the general standard of cattle throughout the country by the use of better sires.

The money for the erection of the camps was provided by a loan of £640 from the Colonial Development Fund, and that required for the purchase of bulls is to be supplied from Basutoland revenue. The first camp was erected in the Matsieng area and the material for others was ordered during the year. Bulls

will be introduced in time for the spring season in 1937. Any cattle owner will be in a position to apply for his cows to go to the bull camps where service will be given free under certain conditions. The most important condition is that the cows entered will be marked and an undertaking given by the owner to produce these animals and their progeny the following season, the object being to mark the female progeny with a view to these being bred at a later date to the good bulls, and so gradually build up herds which will produce first class sires within the Territory for the use of the people.

A cattle census was taken during the year and this revealed an increase of 62,541 units over the previous year. The comparative figures are:—

1935	352,331
1936	414,872

Horses.

During the year a brochure entitled " The Origin and History of the Basuto Pony " was published in English and Sesuto. This work clearly depicts the causes of the decline of the once famous Basuto pony; and, benefiting by past experience, it is intended in 1937 to launch a horse improvement scheme which is calculated to rehabilitate the horse stock of Basutoland within the next decade.

The scheme mentioned in the preceding paragraph is to introduce a number of well-bred stallions and to station these with leading native horse breeders throughout the country. The principal conditions attached thereto will be:—

(*a*) Free service will be granted to the breeders who maintain these stallions. (The maintenance of these animals will be closely watched by the Veterinary staff to see that proper care is taken of them.)

(*b*) A small fee of 5s. will be charged by the breeders who maintain these horses for every mare sent for service.

(*c*) The male progeny will be inspected by officers of the Veterinary staff, and the best of these will be selected and marked, and these marked animals may not be disposed of outside the Territory for a period of six years.

From the procedure outlined it will be realized that accurate records will be maintained and the building up of studs will gradually take place.

Concurrently with this improvement scheme is that of the elimination of undesirable stallions, and in this respect 380 were emasculated in 1936.

Two Arab stallions of a very old strain known as the Asben have been purchased and will be landed in Basutoland early in 1937. Good sires of other breeds, such as the " thoroughbred ", etc., will also be introduced.

The foregoing touches very briefly on the scheme, but to mention all the points in connection with this undertaking would necessitate the writing of an article of considerable length. In view, however, of the applications from horse breeders received during 1936 for the stallions which are being secured in 1937, it is evident that the conditions under which these animals are being loaned to breeders are meeting with approval.

Mules.

There is a shortage of mules in Basutoland for use as pack animals and for riding, quite apart from making use of the available export market. The mountain-bred Basuto mule is a hardy, active animal, highly suitable to the requirements of a people who need a large amount of pack transport for the removal of their products from the mountain area.

The four Catalonian donkey jacks introduced in 1935 have performed excellent service, and it is proposed to import further well-bred donkey sires from year to year, as in the case of the horse sires, in order to build up this promising industry.

Donkeys.

The importation of donkeys into Basutoland is prohibited. There are already a considerable number of these animals, which are used as pack animals, in the Territory; and while they are useful for this purpose it is highly undesirable that their number should be augmented to any extent, since donkeys and goats are more destructive to the pasture in a country already suffering from erosion than any other class of stock.

The following are the census figures for equines for 1935-6:—

	Horses.	*Mules.*	*Donkeys.*
1935	79,701	986	18,911
1936	84,650	1,275	22,361

VII.—COMMERCE.

The following is a comparative statement of the imports and exports by general traders during the last three years:—

IMPORTS.

Description.	1934.		1935.		1936.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£
Merchandise	—	405,859	—	498,992	—	524,500
Livestock :- -	No.		No.		No.	
Horses, Mules, etc.	6	18	76	297	182	759
Cattle	157	354	436	1,213	2,889	8,797
Sheep and Goats	24	21	77	43	73	61
Grain :—	*Bags.		*Bags.		*Bags.	
Wheat and Wheat Meal ...	10,051	14,770	5,900	8,311	6,580	8,446
Maize and Maize Meal	138,779	97,105	101,531	51,476	207,735	145,728
Sorghum	78,051	47,956	50,229	26,696	23,518	22,868
Other Produce	—	684	—	1,303	—	966
Total Imports	—	£566,767	—	£588,331	—	£712,125

EXPORTS.

Livestock :—	No.	£	No.	£	No.	£
Horses, Mules, etc.	191	844	100	521	53	313
Cattle	17,173	53,574	3,189	14,943	6,613	34,365
Sheep and Goats	2,971	1,542	1,138	730	43	37
Grain :—	*Bags.		*Bags.		*Bags.	
Wheat and Wheat Meal ...	89,545	88,919	181,090	152,315	96,250	65,796
Maize and Maize Meal	1,675	1,048	8,105	2,574	395	284
Sorghum	73	54	184	109	656	589
Barley	275	146	1,108	428	276	107
Beans and Peas	262	273	4,582	3,727	2,544	1,641
Wool and Mohair :—	lb.		lb.		lb.	
Wool	5,093,858	118,744	6,410,589	131,198	5,986,871	154,329
Mohair	702,018	12,602	830,245	22,513	817,849	42,124
Hides and Skins :—						
Skins	180,757	1,850	49,596	462	95,806	1,762
Hides	352,524	4,755	104,753	1,459	60,091	764
Miscellaneous	—	171	—	166	—	82
Total Exports	—	£284,522	—	£331,145	—	£302,193

* A "bag" contains 200 lb.

Other Statistics, 1936.

(1) Government Imports		£38,236
		No.
(2) Sheep and Goats exported		5,417
(3) Sheep and Goats imported		6,754
(4) Cattle exported		10,759
(5) Cattle imported		8,801
(6) Equines imported		1,174
	lb.	*lb.*
(7) Wool exported by Traders	5,986,871	
Wool exported by Hawkers and Individuals ...	820,507	
Total Wool exported		6,807,378
(8) Mohair exported by Traders	817,849	
Mohair exported by Hawkers and Individuals	23,622	
Total Mohair exported		841,471
Total Wool and Mohair exported		7,648,849

All exports are made to the Union of South Africa and imports are as a general rule made through the same channel. The past few years have been characterised by the low prices obtaining for wool and mohair, the staple products of the Territory, on the value of which the main purchasing power of the Native depends. A gradual improvement is now evident. The principal articles of United Kingdom manufacture for which there exists definite possibility of further development in trade are blankets, Native trade goods, and agricultural implements. The blanket factory, started some years ago at Harrismith in the Orange Free State, takes an increasingly large proportion of the blanket trade which was formerly given to manufacturers in the United Kingdom.

The following comparative table for 1935 and 1936 indicates the source or origin of motor vehicles registered in the Territory:—

Country of Origin.	*New Registrations.*		*Total Registrations.*	
	1935.	*1936.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Private Motor Vehicles and Taxis.				
Great Britain	15	11	24	28
Canada	24	22	37	53
United States of America ...	127	122	346	420
Germany	—	—	1	1
Italy	1	—	1	1
France	1	—	2	2
	168	155	411	505
Commercial Vehicles.				
Great Britain	7	7	15	16
Canada	19	13	22	34
United States of America ...	33	35	100	100
Germany	—	1	—	1
	59	56	137	151
Motor Cycles.				
Great Britain	5	4	15	8
United States of America ...	—	1	4	6
	5	5	19	14

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

There are no factories or industrial undertakings in the Territory, and there is only one mile of railway which is owned and operated by the South African Railway Administration.

Salaries and wages earned by Europeans vary from £200 to £1,000 per annum in the case of Government servants and from £120 to £600 per annum in the case of employees of trading concerns.

Native wages vary from £24 to £204 per annum in the case of Government employees and from £15 to £48 per annum in the case of store boys, etc., employed by traders.

Natives proceeding to the gold mines in the Union of South Africa receive, on an average, a wage of £3 for every 30 shifts worked, with free food and housing.

The average cost of living for single natives is estimated at £1 *per mensem*, and for married natives £3 *per mensem*.

The cost of living of Europeans varies considerably and is in a great measure dependent on the social or official position of the person concerned.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education in Basutoland presents most of the problems attending African education in other territories with the additional difficulty that the country is for the most part very mountainous with much of its " highlander " population settled somewhat sparsely along isolated valleys difficult of access.

In spite of this the situation to-day is that education of an elementary sort at least is accessible to practically all the people. That this is appreciated by them is evidenced by the voluntary school enrolment of over seventy per cent. of the children of school-going age; undoubtedly a remarkable, if not unique, phenomenon in Africa, and striking evidence of the devotion and enterprise of the missionaries who, with grants-in-aid from the Government, have brought it about. The three missions mainly concerned are the Paris Evangelical Missionary Society, the Roman Catholic Mission, and the English Church Mission. Of these the first named is the oldest, with over a century of work behind it in Basutoland, and has reached a point in its development when it is no longer to be thought of as a " mission " in the ordinary use of the term, since as the result of the faith and foresight of its pioneers it has now in reality become an indigenous Church, with its Basuto members in an overwhelming majority on its governing council. To this in great measure is to be attributed the fact that Basutoland is so much freer of mushroom and fancifully styled African sects than most other native areas of the sub-continent.

The main end of education policy in Basutoland has been to offer to as many as possible the opportunity of learning to read and write and make simple calculations. It is recognized that at the present time the greater number of pupils will attend school for three or four years only, and so to achieve this end education in the lower classes is practically all in the native language. It may be accepted that to the boys and girls of to-day in Basutoland, education is not a foreign or strange thing but a normal and essential part of their environment.

Of elementary vernacular schools there are 522, which are aided from public funds, and 253 which the missions maintain without aid. On a higher level there are 43 schools giving instruction up to Standard VI and introducing more English both into the curriculum and the teaching medium. Of these, three are purely Government schools managed by local committees, and two further centres are to have similar schools.

Education of a higher standard and of vocational character is provided in one Government and ten mission institutions. The former is a Trades School for boys, while of the latter three train

teachers to the standard of the Native Primary Lower Certificate of the Cape Province Education Department, three train girls as infant school teachers, three are schools of domestic science for girls, and one offers industrial training for boys. Ordinary education up to the level of the Junior Certificate can be obtained in two of these mission institutions, but beyond that it is necessary for students to proceed to colleges outside the Territory, more especially the South African Native College at Fort Hare, which has been supported by the Basutoland Administration from the beginning and to which three Government bursaries are available annually.

In 1936 the total enrolment in all schools in the territory was: Government schools, 363, Government-aided mission schools, 69,952, unaided mission schools, 12,537, training institutions and craft schools, 527.

The Establishment of the Education Department consists at present of a Director, two European Inspectors and five Native Supervisors. Administrative expenses are met from the general revenue, while the grants-in-aid to missions, the cost of the purely Government schools and certain other charges are taken from the Native Education Fund. This fund receives a quarter of the ordinary native tax payments together with a special education levy of 3s. per taxpayer. It is estimated that £47,548 will be spent from this fund in 1936-7.

Education is free in all the elementary and intermediate schools, and attendance is not compulsory. There are the familiar difficulties of herding for the boys and home duties for the girls to make attendance irregular, but on the whole the eagerness to secure education is very remarkable.

There is discernible in Basutoland, as in all other South African native areas, a growing desire for education of a higher grade, and one of the urgent problems of the immediate future will be the consideration of how this is to be provided, on what lines, and with what amount of Government support. An important step forward is under contemplation in the establishment of a High School under Government auspices at Maseru, the chief centre of administration.

The internal circumstances of the country are not such as to provide many openings for the more highly educated Basuto, except in the service of the Government. Very many of the Chiefs, being themselves without much education, are suspicious of those who have had a superior training. Consequently many go out into the Union to work and some of these remain there.

Most of what is being done on the side of vocational education has to do with European rather than indigenous crafts, e.g., carpentry, saddlery, laundry, cooking, etc. In connection with many of these the problem is often to find scope for their exercise in the life of a community which is not yet up

to the standard required for the support of more than a very few craftsmen. In regard to the domestic crafts of the girls there is of course ample scope, and a steady raising of the standard of homes and home-crafts is noticeable. But it will take some time for the ordinary life of the Basutoland countryside, which has a communal basis, to develop to the point of absorbing more than a very few skilled artisans. However, progress here is evident and every year a few more tradesmen such as carpenters, blacksmiths, cobblers are to be found doing reasonably well at their trades. Here as in other spheres it is energy that counts.

As regards indigenous crafts the range is not very great, perhaps in the main through the lack of the necessary materials such as wood, osiers, etc. But an investigation conducted early in 1935 on behalf of the Government by Mr. H. V. Meyerowitz has revealed how important in the life of the countryside is the pottery of the women, the grass and other weaving of both men and women, and how skilful in the clay modelling of animals, etc., are some of the children. These crafts are receiving attention in the handwork of some of the schools and the possibilities of development are being considered.

Social welfare activities are mainly in the hands of the Churches, and much good work is being done, while some valuable community service is rendered by the students in the Institutions under the aegis of the Students' Christian Movement. Useful training in homemaking, needlework, etc., for girls who have ceased to attend the ordinary classes is a feature in many of the Roman Catholic day schools.

Recreative activities are noticeably on the increase, chiefly in the form of organized school games, and inter-school competitions in games, athletics, drill and singing are frequent and popular.

The Wayfarer-Guide and Pathfinder-Boy Scout Movements are developing in an encouraging fashion and cannot fail to exert a profound and beneficial influence on the life of the people.

European Education.—There are six small schools in the Territory, managed by local committees, charging modest fees, and aided by the Government. These provide elementary education for the children of Europeans. For education beyond Standard VI children are sent to schools in the Union of South Africa, and two bursaries are awarded annually on the result of a special examination. Of these the one is the " Fraser " scholarship of £50 per annum for two years, given by a prominent trading concern of that name, while the other, of £25 per annum for a similar period, is the " Queen Victoria Diamond Jubilee Scholarship ".

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Railways.

The Territory is linked with the railway system of the Union of South Africa by a short branch line from Maseru to Marseilles on the Bloemfontein-Natal main line. One mile of this line is in Basutoland. The South African railway runs near the boundaries of the Territory and goods are transported by road to the nearest railway station across the border.

During the past year the Road Motor Transport Department of the South African Railways has established a regular service between Fouriesburg and Butha Buthe, Zastron and Mohale's Hoek, and Zastron and Quthing.

Roads.

The greater part of Basutoland is exceptionally mountainous and in this area all transport is effected by the use of pack animals.

On the western side of Basutoland where there is a strip of agricultural country stretching from north to south, a fairly good road system has been developed. The main roads traverse the whole of this area with branches leading west to the principal points of exit. In nearly all cases the roads are gravelled and carry motor and ox-waggon traffic in all weather. There are, however, a number of unbridged rivers and streams which during flood periods may delay travelling for some hours.

From the main roads a number of feeder roads lead towards the interior. By-roads to trading centres and missions connect with these feeder roads penetrating still further into the interior, but although several roads now cross the first range of mountains, none has yet reached the second range. Feeder roads are maintained by the Government and during the year under review a certain amount of gravelling has been carried out, particular attention being paid to improvements of the drainage.

The by-roads are in some instances unsuitable for any type of traffic except ox-wagons. They are maintained by traders and others to whose stations they lead, and annual Government grants are made towards their upkeep.

On the eastern side of Basutoland in the Qacha's Nek district a short system of roads similar to that described above exists, and the standard reached is much the same as that obtaining on the western side of the Territory.

During the year a causeway has been built over the stream at Kolonyama, a low level bridge over Motutong stream, and a 40 feet span girder bridge over the Masitise stream. One or two donga crossings have been permanently strengthened by the construction of masonry retaining walls.

On the maintenance side the number of light graders has been increased with the result that costs have been reduced while the road surfaces allow for more comfortable travelling conditions.

A considerable amount of work has been done in reclaiming dongas alongside and parallel to the roads.

The Union Public Works Department completed during the year the two border bridges at Caledon Poort over the Caledon River, and at Maghaleen over the Maghaleen River. The cost of these bridges is shared equally between the Union Government and Basutoland.

The funds allocated during the past two years for the maintenance of roads, bridges and ferries, together with the expenditure on construction work for the same period are tabulated below:—

	Construction Work.	*Maintenance.*
	£	£
1935	5,600	14,120
1936	3,000*	12,000*

The following is a classification of the roads in the Territory:—

Gravel: 320 miles main road and 62 miles feeder road.

Earth: 40 miles main road and 70 miles feeder road.

In addition there are 290 miles of by-road which are chiefly earth roads.

Bridle Paths.

A member of the Public Works Department staff has been engaged during the year on an investigation of the principal bridle paths in the Territory with a view to initiating a programme of construction and maintenance for the principal pack trails in the Territory.

In the meantime allocations have been made to every District Officer and the money has been spent in repairing the worst sections of the bridle paths.

The expenditure on bridle paths for the year 1935 was £640, and for 1936, the estimated expenditure is £1,000.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks within the territory; but the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, has a branch office at Maseru.

The currency is provided for under Proclamation No. 2 of 1933 and is the same as in the Union of South Africa.

The weights and measures in common use in the territory are the British Imperial.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

In addition to the road work dealt with in Chapter X a fairly considerable programme of construction work has been carried out during the year.

* Estimated expenditure.

The new quarters for the Officer-in-Charge at the mountain station of Mokhotlong started in 1935 have now been completed.

Additions doubling the accommodation for patients at Qacha's Nek Hospital are under construction; police quarters, offices and stabling have been built in the districts of Maseru, Mohale's Hoek, Butha Buthe, Qacha's Nek and Mokhotlong; and the stud stable at Maseru has been re-built at a new site.

In Lebribe a Government Intermediate School is in course of erection.

Quarters are being erected in Maseru and Mafeteng and considerable alterations are being made to certain houses purchased for officers in the Agricultural Department.

The usual maintenance work on Government buildings has been carried on during the year.

The water supply at Mafeteng has been augmented by the erection of a pumping plant and a new reservoir. It is anticipated that the water supplies at this camp will now be adequate for many years to come.

The Union Irrigation Department has carried out a programme of boring for water at Quthing and has been successful in finding a good supply.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

The laws in force in Basutoland include those of the Cape of Good Hope up to the 18th March, 1884, except where repealed or altered by proclamation of the High Commissioner, who is empowered to make by proclamation such laws as may be necessary for the peace, order and good government of the territory.

The Basutoland Courts of Law consist of:—

(*a*) *The Resident Commissioner's Court,* which constitutes the Supreme Court of Basutoland, and from which an appeal lies to the Privy Council. Under Proclamation No. 10 of 1928 as amended, the constitution of the Resident Commissioner's Court was altered and provision made for the appointment of a Judicial Commissioner. The Court is now constituted by the Resident Commissioner, or, when deputed by him thereto, the Deputy Resident Commissioner or the Judicial Commissioner sitting alone or together; and there may be associated with the Court not more than two officers of the Administration appointed by the Resident Commissioner for the purpose by notice in the Gazette. The Resident Commissioner when present and, in his absence, the Judicial Commissioner, is President of the Court, and the judgment of the Court is the judgment pronounced or approved by the President.

The power conferred on the Resident Commissioner to review and correct the proceedings of Courts or officers may be exercised also by the Judicial Commissioner, and any decision

recorded or action taken by the Judicial Commissioner in the course of such review or correction is of the same force and effect as if it had been recorded or taken by the Resident Commissioner.

(*b*) *Courts of District Commissioners,* who are empowered to impose sentences not exceeding two years imprisonment with hard labour or fines not exceeding £50, with jurisdiction in civil cases up to £500. These Courts have no jurisdiction to try, as Courts of the first instance, any person charged with treason, murder, attempt to murder, culpable homicide, rape, attempt to commit rape, or sedition.

These Courts are situated in each of the seven districts and in the sub-district of Butha Buthe. A detached Court is also held in the sub-district of Mokhotlong, presided over by an officer exercising minor jurisdiction.

(*c*) *Chiefs' Courts.*—Under Proclamation No. 2B of 1884 the Paramount Chief and other Native Chiefs of Basutoland were authorized to continue to exercise jurisdiction according to native law and custom in civil and criminal cases within such limits as may be defined by any rules established by the authority of the Resident Commissioner, subject to a proviso that no suit, action or proceeding whatsoever to which any European shall be party, either as plaintiff or complainant, or as defendant, shall be adjudicated upon by any such Chief, save by the consent of all parties concerned. An appeal lies from a decision of any Chief to the Court of the District Commissioner of the District within which such Chief exercises jurisdiction.

The following table shows the number of convictions for various crimes and offences during the last five years:—

Nature of Crime.	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
In Magisterial Courts—					
Offences against the person	351	95	147	137	171
Offences against property	373	558	594	338	366
Offences against liquor laws	20	6	12	19	20
Other crimes	2,729	1,778	1,327	1,356	2,047
In Resident Commissioner's Court—					
Murder	10	6	11	2	12
Culpable homicide ...	62	68	145(*a*)	124(*a*)	67(*a*)
Attempted murder ...	5	4	3	3	3
Rape	6	5	1	7	3
Other offences against the person.	1	6	7	3	15
Offences against property with violence to the person.	214	94	3	—	10
Other offences against property.	33	45	62	32	34
Other crimes	1	3	2	1	1

(*a*) Includes cases of public violence resulting in culpable homicide.

Police.

The establishment of the force and actual strength on the 31st December, 1936, was as follows:—

Europeans.	*Establishment.*	*Strength.*
Staff Officer	1	1
Inspectors	4	4
Sub-Inspectors	4	3
Chief Constable	1	1
Assistant Superintendents ...	2	3
Total	12	12
Native Police.		
Sergeant Major	1	1
Sergeants	14	14
Corporals	15	15
Privates	260	258*

There are in addition two un-uniformed Native saddlers.

Depot.—Thirty new recruits were put through the usual training, and 20 men were sent in from the districts for refresher courses.

Finger Print Bureau.—During the year, 1,278 slips were received for examination, being an increase of 77 on last year's figures, and included 651 in connection with deportations from the Union of South Africa.

Health of Police.—The health of the Police has been good. The death of three of the Native non-commissioned officers is recorded with regret.

Troop and Pack Horses.—Considering the extensive patrol work performed, the horses have maintained their condition remarkably well during the year. The casualties are the lowest on record for some years.

Medals and Commendations.—During the year, two Long Service and Good Conduct Medals were awarded, and three non-commissioned officers and four privates were specially commended for conspicuous ability in police investigations.

Deportees.—During the year, 651 deportees and prohibited immigrants were accepted from the Union on their claims being established to Basutoland domicile. The figures show a decrease of 27 compared with last year's figures. Many of these people are of bad character and, having no means of livelihood, continue their criminal career as is evidenced from Police reports.

Work of the Police.—During the year 10,165 patrols were sent out, 13,649 men being engaged. The mileage covered by the patrols was 193,058 while the mileage performed by the men was 238,718.

* Vacancies to be filled.

Prisons.

There are gaols at the headquarters of each of the seven districts into which the Territory is divided and in the sub-districts of Butha Buthe and Mokhotlong.

Buildings.—All gaol buildings are of stone with iron roofs and cement floors; the inmates are supplied with bed-boards on which to sleep. The majority of cells are built to contain on the average eight to ten prisoners, but there are usually one or two smaller ones for violent or dangerous inmates, or for occasional European convicts. Attached to each prison is an exercise yard and cement baths with water laid on. The cook-house is in the yard and a daily scale of ration as laid down by statute is provided. As no special accommodation exists in the district gaols for female or European prisoners, they are invariably transferred to Maseru.

Health.—The health of the prisoners during 1936 has been good, the daily average on the sick list being ten. Ten deaths were recorded during the year. All prisoners are medically examined on admission, and the Medical Officers make regular visits to the gaols, apart from the weekly inspection when they accompany the District Administrative Officer in charge. Prisoners reporting sick are taken to the Government dispensary, and if necessary are admitted to hospital where they are put into the ordinary public wards and treated on similar lines to other patients.

Discipline.—During 1936, breaches of prison discipline were few and escapes of prisoners numbered only eight.

Labour.—The policy commenced in 1931 of utilizing convicts to a greater extent on road construction and maintenance in the vicinity of the various Government stations has been maintained. Where possible convicts are trained to become useful members of society on release by instruction in such trades as masonry, carpentry, building and other kinds of manual labour.

Sentences.—The majority of offenders are given the option of paying a fine in lieu of imprisonment with hard labour. Provision was made by Proclamation No. 55 of 1921 for the punishment of offenders in certain cases, by which the Court may in its discretion:—

(*a*) postpone for a period not exceeding six months the passing of sentence, and release the offender on one or more conditions; or

(*b*) pass sentence but order the operation of the sentence to be suspended for a period not exceeding three years on such conditions as the Court may specify in the order; or

(*c*) pass sentence of a fine or, in default of payment, imprisonment, but suspend the issue of a warrant committing the offender to a gaol in default of payment until

the expiry of such a period not exceeding 12 months as the Court may fix for payment, in instalments or otherwise, of the amount of the fine or until default has been made.

Good conduct remission up to one-fourth of the sentence is allowed on all sentences of imprisonment for six months or more.

Statistics.—During the year 3,364 persons passed through the various gaols in the Territory, and of these 2,341 were committed to penal imprisonment. The corresponding figures for 1935 were 2,609 and 1,678 respectively.

Juvenile Offenders.—All juvenile prisoners are transferred to Leribe where they are kept segregated from adult prisoners so far as possible. The daily average number of juveniles in prison during 1936 was ten.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following is the legislation for the year 1936 which has been proclaimed in the *Gazette*:—

(1) No. 4.—Basutoland Pensions (Amendment) Proclamation, 1936 (No. 16 of 1934).
(2) No. 9.—Basutoland Further Appropriation (1934–35) Proclamation, 1936.
(3) No. 11.—Departmental Offences (Basutoland) Proclamation, 1936.
(4) No. 12.—Basutoland Death Duties (Amendment) Proclamation, 1936.
(5) No. 16.—Titles of District Commissioner and Assistant District Commissioner to be borne by Administrative Officers.
(6) No. 24.—Amending Basutoland Census Proclamation No. 9 of 1904.
(7) No. 36.—Public Holidays Amendment Proclamation, 1936.
(8) No. 37.—Fixation of Wages (Basutoland) Proclamation, 1936.
(9) No. 38.—Basutoland Death Duties (Further Amendment) Proclamation, 1936.
(10) No. 41.—Basutoland Appropriation (1936–37) Proclamation, 1936.
(11) No. 43.—Basutoland Trade Marks Registration (Amendment) Proclamation, 1936.
(12) No. 45.—Repealing Proclamations 64, 67, 70 and 73 of 1935 which prohibited the exportation of warlike stores to Italian territory.
(13) No. 48.—Basutoland Prisons (Further Amendment) Proclamation, 1936.
(14) No. 50.—Customs Tariff (Amendment) Proclamation, 1936.
(15) No. 53.—Basutoland Trading (Amendment) Proclamation, 1936.
(16) No. 54.—Basutoland Cattle Improvement Proclamation, 1936.
(17) No. 56.—Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1936.
(18) No. 62.—Prohibiting the exportation of warlike stores from Basutoland to Spain.
(19) No. 70.—United Kingdom Designs (Protection) (Basutoland) Proclamation, 1936.
(20) No. 73.—Basutoland Medical, Dental and Pharmacy (Amendment) Proclamation, 1936.
(21) No. 76.—Basutoland Native Trading Proclamation, 1936.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure for the past five financial years:—

REVENUE.

Head.	*1931–2.*	*1932–3.*	*1933–4.*	*1934–5.*	*1935–6.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Native Tax	116,783	121,795	90,017	129,312	140,910
Customs and Excise ...	80,842	86,161	90,040	104,442	111,633
Posts and Telegraphs ...	9,964	9,172	12,906	11,437	14,187
Licences	7,821	7,855	8,466	8,615	9,181
Fees of Court or Office ...	1,042	810	773	361	346
Judicial Fines	976	783	424	739	431
Income Tax	3,957	4,040	4,115	5,608	4,036
Poll Tax	—	—	1,265	1,345	1,334
Fees for Services Rendered	1,165	1,020	1,023	1,017	1,270
Interest	3,997	2,473	1,963	1,408	1,303
Wool Export Duty ...	19,265	678	8,107	6,786	7,375
Miscellaneous	8,040	22,094	12,155	12,422	11,294
Education Levy	13,017	13,853	10,340	14,766	16,241
Civil Servants Salary Deductions.	—	4,676	4,550	2,689	2,148
Colonial Development Fund	—	—	—	1,543	207
Totals	£266,869	£275,410	£246,144	£302,490	£321,896

EXPENDITURE.

Head.	*1931–2.*	*1932–3.*	*1933–4.*	*1934–5.*	*1935–6.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner ...	12,789	13,280	13,163	13,018	13,600
District Administration ...	15,121	15,596	16,157	16,874	17,325
Police	35,455	33,908	33,386	34,188	33,603
Administration of Justice	13,255	10,683	13,923	13,674	13,246
Posts and Telegraphs ...	11,027	14,065	10,949	10,599	11,990
Public Works Department	5,761	5,166	5,308	5,476	5,621
Public Works Extraordinary.	345	39	493	986	1,597
Public Works Recurrent ...	20,516	17,949	20,645	25,493	28,338
Medical	25,394	24,507	25,712	26,605	29,311
Education	49,734	51,587	39,352	53,357	57,854
Lerotholi Technical School	5,541	5,195	5,515	6,503	6,205
Agriculture—					
Veterinary	23,630	12,799	12,598	12,944	12,294
Agricultural	5,751	7,184	7,351	8,664	9,495
Allowances to Chiefs ...	11,628	11,472	11,145	9,413	11,207
National Council	1,613	1,786	736	1,697	1,715
Leper Settlement	20,317	19,820	19,671	19,138	18,201
Pensions	11,242	11,760	14,562	13,962	16,862
Miscellaneous	6,758	6,243	40,910	15,399	6,419
Capital Expenditure ...	4,312	585	538	5,440	3,522
Colonial Development Fund	—	—	—	1,543	—
Census	—	—	—	—	196
Financial and Economic Commission.	—	—	—	—	207
Totals	£280,189	£263,624	£292,114	£294,973	£298,808

Liabilities and Assets.

The surplus balance at the 31st March, 1936, amounted to £63,812. £35,000 of the surplus balance is on loan to the Swaziland Government at 3½ per cent. per annum. This loan is repayable by 1943.

The detailed statement of Liabilities and Assets at the 31st March, 1936, is as follows:—

Liabilities.	£	*Assets.*	£
Guardian's Fund Deposit Account	6,755	On deposit with the Crown Agents for the Colonies, London	14,000
Sub-Accountants' Suspense Account	3,309	Crown Agents, London, Current Account ...	459
Stores Imprest Account ...	13,486	Standard Bank of South Africa Ltd., Deposit Account	20,000
Basutoland Wool and Mohair Fund	1,550	Standard Bank of South Africa Ltd., Current Account	8,431
Basutoland Education Fund	14,008	Balances in hands of Sub-Accountants	12,170
Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland Tax Account	961	Advances Recoverable ...	9,307
Deposits	5,108	South African Railways and Harbours	141
	45,177	On loan to Swaziland Administration	35,000
		Stores Suspense	9,400
		Bloemfontein Board of Executors & Trust Co. Ltd. (under Judicial Management)	81
Balance of Assets over Liabilities	63,812		
	£108,989		£108,989

The Wool and Mohair Fund was established under Proclamation No. 39 of 1931 with funds received from the Union Government under Notice No. 1493 dated the 15th August, 1930, in respect of wool and mohair exported from Basutoland together with amounts recovered from persons to whom livestock or other articles have been supplied from monies provided by the Fund. The proceeds of this Fund are devoted to the promotion of the future production of wool and mohair. During the year 1936, 306 pedigree rams were purchased for distribution amongst the Basuto at £2 each.

Estimated Financial Position at the 31st March, 1937.—It is anticipated that there will be a surplus of revenue over expenditure for the financial year 1936-7 of £21,976 and that the available surplus balance will amount to £85,788 at that date.

Description of Main Heads of Taxation.

Native Tax.

The rate of tax is 25s. for every adult male native domiciled in Basutoland, and in addition 25s. for each wife after the first, but no native is liable for more than £3 15s. od. in any one year for himself and his wives.

The collection was £11,597 5s. od. more than in 1934-5 and was made up of £51,644 Arrear, £88,488 Current (1935-6), and £777 Advance (1936-7) Tax. The drought and depression years account for the large amount of the arrear tax.

Customs and Excise.

An amount of £109,915 5s. 6d. was received from the Union Government under the Customs Agreement and represents ·88575 per cent. of the gross Customs revenue of the Union of South Africa for the 12 months ended the 31st March, 1936. Local collections on Union manufactured spirits and beer amount to £1,717 3s. 7d.

Licences.

There was no change in the rates paid for the various classes of licences during the year under review.

Income Tax.

The rates fixed for the tax-year ended the 30th June, 1935, were the same as those for the previous year and were:—

(1) Normal Tax:—

(*a*) In the case of companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, two shillings and sixpence.

(*b*) In the case of persons other than companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, one shilling and as many two-thousandths of a penny as there are pounds in that amount, subject to a maximum rate of two shillings in every pound.

(2) Super Tax:—

(*a*) When the amount subject to super tax does not exceed twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, one shilling and as many five-hundredths of a penny as there are pounds in that amount.

(*b*) When the amount subject to super tax exceeds twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, five shillings.

The following abatements were deducted from the taxable income of any person, other than a company, for the purpose of determining the taxable amount:—

Abatements:—

(*a*) Primary £400.

(*b*) Life insurance and similar allowances. A deduction not exceeding £50 is made in respect of premiums paid

during the period of assessment on policies under which the taxpayer, his wife or minor children are insured against death, accident or sickness.

(*c*) A deduction not exceeding £10 is allowed for fees or subscriptions paid during the period of assessment to any friendly or benefit society.

(*d*) £100 for each unmarried child or step-child who was alive during any portion of the year of assessment and was or would have been under the age of 21 years on the last day of the year of assessment.

(*e*) A sum of £30 for each dependant of the taxpayer.

The total of the abatements and allowances is reduced:—

(1) In the case of every such taxpayer (i) who during any portion of the period in respect of which the assessment is made was married; or (ii) who during the whole or any portion of the period in respect of which the assessment was made was divorced, but maintained during any portion of that period a child of his own or a step-child who was or would have been had he lived under the age of twenty-one years on the last day of the year of assessment in respect of which, or portion of which, the assessment is made, the reduction shall be by one pound for every completed ten pounds by which the taxable income of such person exceeds six hundred pounds or when the period assessed is less than twelve months, by which it exceeds so much of six hundred pounds as is proportionate to the period assessed: Provided that for the purpose of this paragraph any person who was a widower or widow during the whole or any portion of the period in respect of which the assessment is made shall be assessed as though he had been married throughout that period and any person who has been separated under a judicial order or written agreement throughout that period shall be assessed as though he had been divorced throughout that period.

(2) In the case of all other persons to whom paragraph (1) of this sub-section does not apply, the reduction shall be by one pound for every completed pound by which the taxable income of any such person exceeds three hundred pounds or, when the period assessed is less than twelve months by which it exceeds so much of three hundred pounds as is proportionate to the period assessed. In the case of persons other than companies the assessment is subject to a rebate of 20 per cent.

Companies.—In the case of companies an abatement of £300, which is subject to reductions in accordance with paragraph (2) above.

Super Tax is payable (other than by a public company) on a taxable income exceeding in the aggregate £2,500 in any year

of assessment. The taxable income of any person determined for normal tax purposes is the amount upon which the super tax is assessed.

There is an abatement of £2,500 and this is diminished by £1 for every £1 by which the income, subject to super tax, exceeds £2,500.

Dividends accruing to non-residents are exempt from super-tax provided such dividends are not paid or payable within the territory.

The sources from which taxable incomes were derived and the amount of tax paid for the tax years 1934 and 1935 are as follows:—

Source.	1934.	1935.
	£	£
General Traders	4,077	2,505
Civil Servants	786	669
Employed persons ...	58	96
Others	597	583
Non-residents	90	183
	£5,608	£4,036

The numbers of incomes assessed for current tax and the total amount of taxable incomes in the categories shown are:—

Numbers.	*Categories.*	*Total of Taxable Incomes.*
	£	£
8	500 and under	2,706
34	501–750	21,959
26	751–1,000	22,497
17	1,001–1,500	19,942
5	1,501–2,000	8,536
4	Over 2,000	15,173
94		£90,813

Stamp Duties and Fees on Documents payable by means of Stamps.

The duties and fees payable are specified in the Schedule to Proclamation No. 16 of 1907 as amended and are classified under the following heads:—

Arbitrations and Awards.
Bonds.
Courts of Law (District Commissioners' Courts).
Civil Cases (Resident Commissioner's Court).
Acts or Deeds of Donations.
Leases.
Master's Office: (*a*) Insolvency.
(*b*) Orphan Chamber.
Office Fees and Transfers and Miscellaneous.

Estate Duty is payable in terms of the Basutoland Death Duties Proclamation of 1935 at ½ per cent. upon the first £2,000 and up to 17 per cent. on £75,000 and over, and the rates of Succession Duty vary from 2 to 10 per cent.

Wool and Mohair Export Duty.

This duty remained at ½d. per lb. for the period 1st April 1935 to 31st March 1936. The increased collection as compared with the previous year's total is due to improvement in the health of sheep and goats and the improved pasture conditions.

Poll Tax.

The rate is fixed at £2 per annum payable half-yearly on the 1st January and the 1st July by all adult males domiciled in Basutoland who are not liable to pay Native Tax. In the case of failure to pay any one instalment of the tax within the period provided, a further sum of 2s. for each month or part of a month is payable.

Posts and Telegraphs.

The revenue amounted to £14,187 during the financial year ended 31st March, 1936, and the expenditure to £11,990.

During the financial year 1935-6 postal and money orders to the value of £24,212 were issued and £37,036 paid.

The Union Post Office Savings Bank system is in operation in Basutoland, and the following deposits and withdrawals at post offices in the territory were made during the financial year 1935-6:—

	£
Deposits	30,545
Withdrawals	22,395

Basutoland has its own postage and revenue stamps. There are eleven denominations ranged in the following order, the first ten being postage and revenue stamps; ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., and for revenue purposes only £1. The respective colours are green, red, purple, blue, grey, light brown, orange, dark brown, blue-purple, olive and black. One design only is used, which contains a vignette of His Majesty the King, placed above a scene depicting the Maluti mountains and the Orange River, while in the foreground is a representation of a crocodile—the emblem of the ruling house of Moshesh.

Civil Servants' Salary Deductions.

The deductions from the emoluments of civil servants in the Territory, which had been imposed during the financial crisis, were discontinued as from the 1st April 1936.

Johannesburg Agency.

The Report on the Financial and Economic Position of Basutoland dated January, 1935, recommended the permanent establishment of this Agency (page 58) and all three High Commission Territories now participate and contribute towards the cost of maintenance.

Revenue is collected from the Basuto, Bechuana and Swazis working in the Transvaal industrial and mining areas, and the functions of the Agency are now extended to general welfare work. (A fuller report of the work of this Agency will be found under Chapter XVI, Labour.)

The total revenue collections for 1936 as compared with 1935 are:—

	1935.	1936.
	£	£
Basutoland	38,163	39,833
Bechuanaland Protectorate ...	4,253	4,974
Swaziland	1,443	4,996
	£43,859	£49,803

The collections on behalf of the Bechuanaland Protectorate Administration commenced in May 1934, and in June 1934 for Swaziland.

XVI.—LABOUR.

The following table shows the number of passes issued during the past three years to enable natives to leave the territory to take up or seek employment in the Union of South Africa:—

	1934.	*1935.*	*1936.*
Mines:—Gold	22,994	29,502	34,877
Coal	156	472	627
Diamonds	220	83	229
Manganese	—	—	305
Total Mines ...	23,370	30,057	36,038
Agriculture	6,700	5,584	6,964
Miscellaneous labour	8,372	9,852	13,878
Totals	38,442	45,493	56,880

The gold mines play a large part in the economic position of the Territory, employing annualiy large numbers of Basuto. At the close of the year 1936, 45,399 Basuto were employed on these mines.

In addition to Basuto employed on the gold mines, there is a fairly large number in industrial employment in the Witwatersrand area.

Many of the Basuto on the Witwatersrand remit money to their families in Basutoland through the Native Recruiting Corporation, Limited, and the Native Deposit and Remittance Agency, and a large percentage of the natives recruited for the mines defer a portion of their earnings for payment to them on their return to Basutoland. Many of them also make remittances through the post, and it is estimated that an amount at least equal to the amount remitted through other channels is remitted in this way, though statistics cannot be obtained. During the year under review a sum of £131,805 was remitted by Basuto to their families through the Native Recruiting Corporation, and £105,917 was paid out as deferred wages, whilst a sum of over £8,000 was paid out through the Native Deposit and Remittance Agency and through other sources.

During the year 1932 an office was opened temporarily in Johannesburg for the purpose of collecting tax from Basutoland natives employed on the Witwatersrand. At the beginning of 1933 the Agency was re-opened and it has been maintained ever since. The Agency at first dealt only with the collection of revenue, but its functions were soon extended in the direction of dealing with the domestic affairs of the Basuto on the Witwatersrand, encouraging them to save money, giving them home news, counteracting as far as possible the temptations of their environment, repatriating those who are indigent and, generally, giving advice and assistance to them whenever required.

The Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland now share in the Agency which thus deals with natives from all three High Commission Territories, both in regard to the collection of taxes and in general welfare work.

APPENDIX.

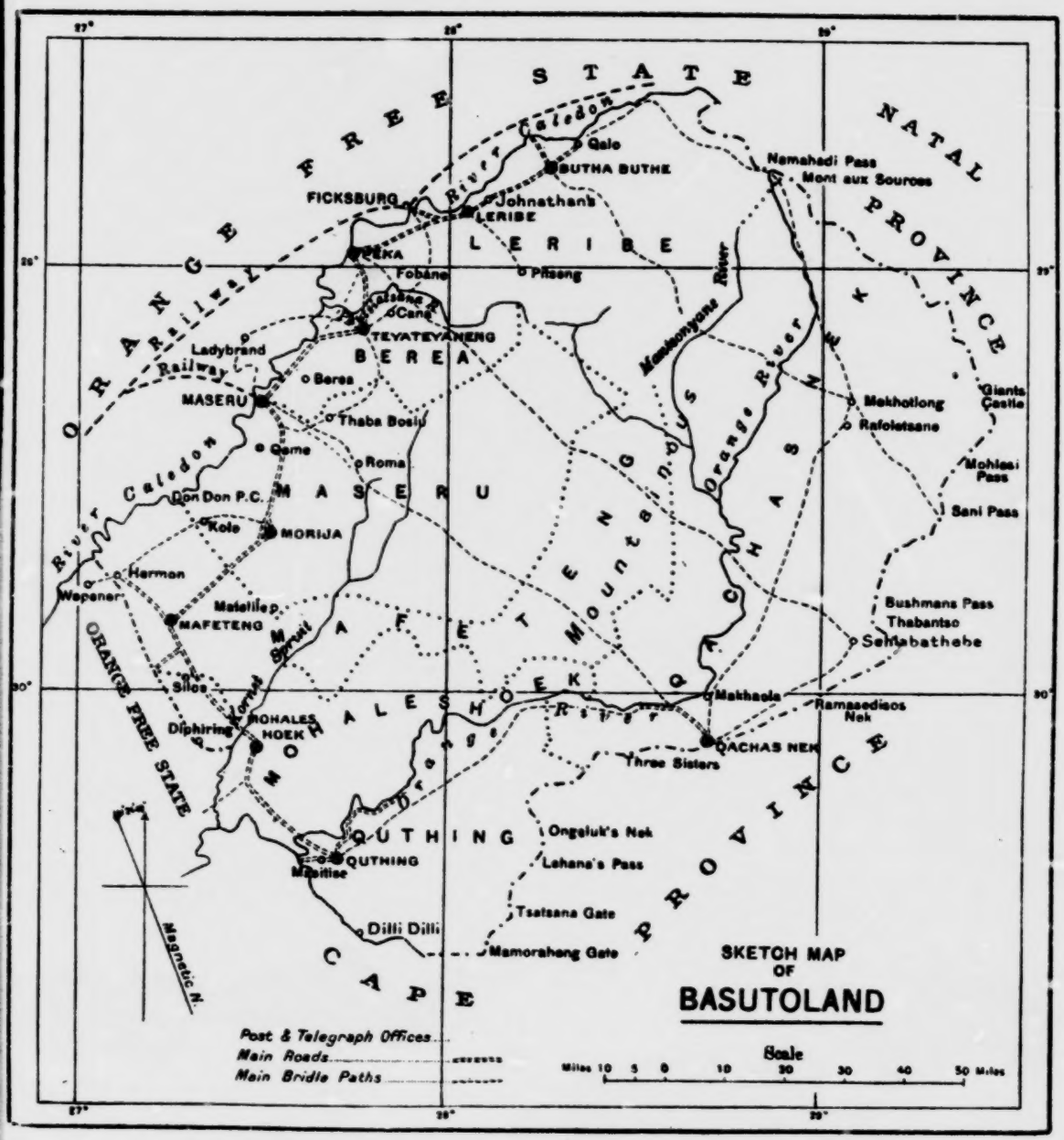
Publications relating to Basutoland.

" The Basutos " by Sir Godfrey Lagden, K.C.M.G., 2 vols.—Hutchinson.

" History of the Basuto "—D. F. Ellenberger and J. C. Macgregor.

" The Basuto of Basutoland "—E. A. T. Dutton—Jonathan Cape.

Report on the Financial and Economic Position of Basutoland (Cmd. 4907)—His Majesty's Stationery Office ... ... 3*s.* 6*d.*



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Report of Commission [Colonial No. 125] 5s. 0d. (5s. 4d.)

EDUCATION OF AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

Memorandum by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies [Colonial No. 103] 6d. (7d.)

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Continued on page 3 of cover

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BASUTOLAND FOR THE YEAR 1937

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

Basutoland is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, and on the south by the Cape Province. 11,716 square miles in area, Basutoland lies between 28° 35′ and 30° 40′ South latitude and between 27° and 29° 30′ East longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 feet to 11,000 feet above sea-level. The Maluti Mountains, which occupy most of the territory to the east, were in former years reserved for grazing purposes but, owing to the pressure in the lowlands where the bulk of the population is concentrated, this more or less inaccessible

area has become comparatively thickly populated. One result of this occupation of the mountain area is the disappearance of big game, such as eland and hartebeest, which used to abound, and the gradual elimination of small game and birds.

The climate is dry and bracing, with extremes of heat and cold both seasonal and diurnal. High altitude, electric tension, and long periods of strong sunshine without clouds or rain necessitate for European residents periodic changes to the coast level where the air is more humid.

The temperature varies from a maximum of 93° F. to a minimum of 11° F. The rainfall is capricious, the average being approximately 30 inches per annum, but it fluctuates much above and below this figure. The rainfall in 1937 recorded at the different stations in the Territory varied between 36·02 and 18·01 inches.

The Basuto as a nation did not come into prominence until 1818, when Moshesh, a minor chief of the Bakwena tribe in North Basutoland, gathered together the remnants of the various clans that had been scattered by the raids of the Zulu and Matabele.

The new nation went through many vicissitudes of fortune, first with the emigrant Boers of the Great Trek, and then with the British under General Cathcart in 1852. From 1856 until 1868 there was a series of wars with the Orange Free State burghers and, being hard pressed and having lost a large portion of his country (now known as " the Conquered Territory "), Moshesh sought the protection of the British Government. This was granted and carried into effect by Sir Philip Wodehouse, the Governor of the Cape, by a Proclamation dated the 12th March, 1868.

It is interesting to note that, although Moshesh asked for British protection, the Basuto were received as British subjects and not as protected subjects by the Proclamation of 1868, part of which reads:—

> " Now therefore, I do hereby proclaim and declare that from and after publication hereof the said tribe of Basuto shall be taken to be British subjects, and the territory of the said tribe shall be taken to be British territory."

The country remained in a very unsettled condition until it was annexed to the Cape Colony by an Act of the Cape Legislature, No. 12 of 1871. The Act expressly declared that the territory was not to be subject to the general laws of the Colony, and gave the Governor power to legislate for it by proclamation and to extend to it by proclamation any Cape Act not otherwise in force therein.

The people never took kindly to the Cape Colonial rule, and after various disturbances the Government of the Cape, in 1880, extended to Basutoland the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878, which included a clause for the general disarmament of the Basuto. They refused to accept the terms and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at under which the Act was repealed and certain fines were paid by the tribe.

Although outwardly peace was restored, there still remained several chiefs who would not submit, and it was eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This was effected by Order in Council of 2nd February, 1884, which was proclaimed and brought into force by Proclamation No. 75A of 18th March, 1884. This Proclamation defined the boundaries of the Territory and restored it to the direct control of the Queen through Her Majesty's High Commissioner for South Africa.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Territory is governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland, the latter possessing legislative authority, which is exercised by proclamation promulgated in the official *Gazette*. The Financial Secretary, who is also Treasurer, prepares the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure and the Annual Accounts. Until 1931 the Office of the High Commissioner was held by the Governor-General of the Union of South Africa, but with the close of the Earl of Athlone's period of office the two posts were separated.

For administrative purposes the country is divided into seven districts under District Commissioners: Maseru, Leribe (including the sub-district of Butha Buthe), Teyateyaneng, Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek, Quthing, and Qacha's Nek (with the sub-district of Mokhotlong). These districts are divided into chiefdoms and sub-chiefdoms presided over by the hereditary chiefs and sub-chiefs allied to the Moshesh family who are responsible to the Paramount Chief in all matters relating to native law and custom.

In 1903 there was established a Basutoland Council in place of the National Pitso which was previously held once every year. Its constitution and functions are defined by Proclamation No. 7 of 31st March, 1910. The Council consists of 100 members, including the Paramount Chief as Chief Councillor with the Resident Commissioner as President. The Resident Commissioner nominates five members and the remaining 94 are nominated by the Paramount Chief and confirmed in their appointments by the Resident Commissioner. The Council exists for the discussion of the domestic affairs of the Territory.

The 1937 Session of the Council took place in November. The High Commissioner's message, referring to the Coronation and other important events, was enthusiastically received, as also was the Resident Commissioner's speech outlining the progress of the Territory in the past year.

The following two and a half days were devoted to a general discussion on the subject of the native courts, an important subject which was debated with great keenness by the Councillors.

There followed the usual debates on the Basutoland Council itself, its composition and functions, on agriculture and allied matters, on medical questions and on education. As is customary, the Director of Agriculture, the Principal Medical Officer and the Director of Education addressed the Council, outlining the work of their respective departments during the year and answering questions put to them by the Council. Several constructive suggestions resulted from the debates, and the Government is taking the necessary action.

The last three days were occupied with discussion of miscellaneous matters. One important point raised concerned the conditions of native labour on the gold mines. Comments by the District Superintendent of the Native Recruiting Corporation on the motions discussed in this connection were read to the Council, an interesting and very useful innovation which was obviously appreciated.

III.—POPULATION.

The following are comparative figures for the years 1921 and 1936, and indicate the increase and distribution of the population:—

District.	1921.			1936.			Increase or Decrease.					
							Numerical.			Percentage.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
ALL RACES.												
Berea	24,273	32,669	56,942	22,657	33,078	55,735	— 1,616	409	— 1,207	— 6·66	1·25	—2·12
Butha Buthe	46,626	61,639	108,265	14,585	20,519	35,104	8,597	16,109	24,706	18·44	26·13	22·82
Leribe ...				40,638	57,229	97,867						
Mafeteng ...	30,270	37,492	67,762	30,602	40,699	71,301	332	3,207	3,539	1·10	8·55	5·22
Maseru	44,978	55,278	100,256	47,339	61,812	109,151	2,361	6,534	8,895	5·25	11·82	8·87
Mohale's Hoek ...	27,360	33,648	61,008	27,823	37,869	65,692	463	4,221	4,684	1·69	12·55	7·68
Mokhotlong	32,727	33,559	66,286	16,583	19,871	36,454	4,563	11,384	16,447	13·94	35·41	24·81
Qacha's Nek				20,707	25,572	46,279						
Quthing	17,601	20,661	38,262	19,331	25,397	44,728	1,730	4,736	6,466	9·83	22·92	16·90
Total ...	223,835	274,946	498,781	240,268	322,046	562,311	16,430	47,100	63,530	7·34	17·13	12·74
EUROPEANS.												
Berea	78	54	132	56	38	94	— 22	— 16	— 38	— 28·21	— 29·63	— 28·79
Butha Buthe	142	118	260	29	21	50	— 40	— 16	— 56	— 28·17	— 13·56	— 21·53
Leribe ...				73	81	154						
Mafeteng ...	139	123	262	98	91	189	— 41	— 32	— 73	— 29·50	— 26·02	— 27·86
Maseru	309	303	612	304	279	583	— 5	— 24	— 29	— 1·62	— 7·92	— 4·74
Mohale's Hoek ...	88	71	159	71	79	150	— 17	+ 8	— 9	— 19·32	+ 11·27	— 5·66
Mokhotlong	42	21	63	17	9	26	+ 20	+ 25	+ 45	+ 47·62	+119·05	+ 71·43
Qacha's Nek				45	39	82						
Quthing	68	47	115	57	49	106	— 11	+ 2	— 9	— 16·18	+ 4·26	— 7·83
Total ...	866	737	1,603	750	684	1,434	—116	— 53	—169	— 13·40	— 7·19	— 10·54

NATIVES (BANTU).

Berea	24,133	32,541	56,674	22,531	32,991	55,522	— 1,602	450	— 1,152	— 6·64	1·38	— 2·03
Butha Buthe	46,357	61,437	107,794	14,467	20,402	34,869	8,501	15,950	24,451	18·34	25·96	22·68
Leribe ...				40,391	56,985	97,376						
Mafeteng ...	30,016	37,263	67,279	30,394	40,470	70,864	378	3,207	3,585	1·26	8·61	5·33
Maseru	44,550	54,828	99,378	46,872	61,365	108,237	2,322	6,537	8,859	5·21	11·92	8·91
Mohale's Hoek ...	27,132	33,436	60,568	27,628	37,681	65,309	496	4,245	4,741	1·83	12·70	7·83
Mokhotlong	32,668	33,525	66,193	16,552	19,860	36,412	4,512	11,839	16,351	13·81	35·31	24·70
Qacha's Nek				20,628	25,504	46,132						
Quthing	17,486	20,565	38,051	19,242	25,310	44,552	1,756	4,745	6,501	10·04	23·07	17·08
Total ...	222,342	273,595	495,937	238,705	320,568	559,273	16,363	46,973	63,336	7·36	17·17	12·77

COLOURED (OTHER THAN BANTU).*

Berea	62	74	136	70	49	119	8	— 25	— 17	12·90	— 33·78	— 12·50
Butha Buthe	127	84	211	89	96	185	136	175	311	107·09	208·33	147·39
Leribe ...				174	163	337						
Mafeteng ...	115	106	221	110	138	248	— 5	32	27	— 4·35	30·19	12·22
Maseru	119	147	266	163	168	331	44	21	65	36·97	14·29	24·44
Mohale's Hoek ...	140	141	281	124	109	233	— 16	— 32	— 48	— 11·43	— 22·69	— 17·08
Mokhotlong	17	13	30	14	2	16	31	20	51	182·36	153·85	170·01
Qacha's Nek				34	31	65						
Quthing	47	49	96	32	38	70	— 15	— 11	— 26	— 31·91	— 22·45	— 27·08
Total ...	627	614	1,241	810	794	1,604	183	180	363	29·17	29·31	29·25

* Asiatic included with Coloured.

The following table enumerates the native (Bantu) population, and absentees stated to be absent at labour centres :—

District.	*Population Enumerated.*			*Absentees at Labour Centres.*			*Total Population.*		
	Males.	*Females.*	*Persons.*	*Males.*	*Females.*	*Persons.*	*Males.*	*Females.*	*Persons.*
1. Berea	22,531	32,991	55,522	8,953	1,865	10,818	31,484	34,856	66,340
2. Butha Buthe ...	14,467	20,402	34,869	6,180	2,267	8,447	20,647	22,669	43,316
3. Leribe	40,391	56,985	97,376	13,715	2,375	16,090	54,106	59,360	113,466
4. Mafeteng ...	30,394	40,470	70,864	9,746	2,454	12,200	40,140	42,924	83,064
5. Maseru ...	46,872	61,365	108,237	16,771	6,808	23,579	63,643	68,173	131,816
6. Mohale's Hoek	27,628	37,681	65,309	7,028	916	7,944	34,656	38,597	73,253
7. Mokhotlong ...	16,552	19,860	36,412	2,519	490	3,009	19,071	20,350	39,421
8. Qacha's Nek ...	20,628	25,504	46,132	6,674	2,784	9,458	27,302	28,288	55,590
9. Quthing ...	19,242	25,310	44,552	7,018	2,710	9,728	26,260	28,020	54,280
Total ...	238,705	320,568	559,273	78,604	22,669	101,273	317,309	343,237	660,546

The following is a comparative statement of the density of the population (other than European) in 1911, 1921 and 1936:—

	1911.	*1921.*	*1936.*
Number of persons per square mile ...	34·41	42·44	47·99
Number of acres per head of population	18·60	15·08	13·33
Number of occupied huts per square mile.	10·86	16·99	20·42
Number of persons to each hut... ...	3·61	2·84	2·35

There is no compulsory registration of births or deaths, and figures for the number of marriages according to Native custom are not available. Marriages according to Christian rites numbered 1,345 during the year under review, compared with 1,040 in 1936.

IV.—HEALTH.

The medical staff of the Territory consists of a Principal Medical Officer, eight Medical Officers, one Assistant Medical Officer, and one District Surgeon. A Medical Officer is stationed at each district headquarters. Mokhotlong sub-district is in charge of an Assistant Medical Officer, and there is a District Surgeon at Butha Buthe.

An important change in the medical personnel was made in 1936 by the appointment of Dr. Motebang, M.B., Ch.B., a native of Basutoland, to the full-time post of Assistant Medical Officer at the Mokhotlong sub-district, where he had for several years held the part-time post of District Surgeon. In 1937 a trained native nurse was appointed to the same sub-district. This is the first time a qualified Mosuto doctor and nurse have been appointed to take sole charge of a medical unit, including a small hospital.

There are five Government general hospitals, staffed by qualified European nurses with native attendants, and three smaller cottage hospitals, staffed by native nurses. The total number of hospital beds available for the Territory is 190 for natives and 12 for Europeans. At each of the district headquarters a daily dispensary clinic is conducted by the Medical Officer. Trained natives dispense the medicine prescribed by the Medical Officers.

The following developments, initiated in 1936, were consolidated or completed in 1937:—

(*a*) Five native nurse probationers at the Maseru Hospital completed their first year of training and are now proceeding with the second year's programme, and six new probationers have commenced their first year's training.

(*b*) The extensions to the Qacha's Nek Hospital, which now provides accommodation for thirty patients, were completed in 1937.

(*c*) The buildings of the Mokhotlong Cottage Hospital were completed, providing accommodation for six to eight patients who are nursed by a trained Mosuto nurse under the direction of a qualified Mosuto Medical Officer.

During 1937 the following programme of development was undertaken:—

(*a*) At Leribe and Mohale's Hoek, unsatisfactory communal pit latrines were replaced by an efficient bucket system of sanitation, removals being by contract.

(*b*) Accommodation for native patients at the Mafeteng Hospital was increased by enlargement of the wards from 20 to 40 beds.

(*c*) Provision was made at Qacha's Nek and Leribe, by the erection of five-roomed cottages, to afford shelter for out-patients who come for treatment from distant villages, but who are not suitable cases for hospital treatment.

(*d*) Accommodation was provided at the Maseru Hospital for 12 native probationer nurses.

(*e*) A maternity ward of 16 beds with a labour ward, etc., was built at Maseru and will be ready to function early in 1938.

(*f*) Protection of village springs was commenced. Provision has been made to deal with about 200 springs during the financial year 1937-8 and a similar number in the year 1938-9, the object being to render village water supplies proof against surface pollution and to increase the amount of water available by preventing the loss that occurs through seepage.

(*g*) The erection of manu[illegible] "Baber" fly traps near stabies, etc., in Maseru has resulted in a great diminution of flies.

(*h*) A water-borne sewage system for the Maseru Hospital is now in process of installation, replacing the 30-year-old bucket system which was unhygienic and unsatisfactory for a modern hospital of this size.

There were 110,807 attendances at the Government dispensaries during the year. Of these, 72,249 were first attendances and 37,558 subsequent attendances. The total shows an increase of 28,084 as compared with 1936.

The total number of in-patients treated in the Government hospitals in 1937 was 3,644 as compared with 3,236 in 1936.

The following table details the total attendances at each hospital and dispensary in the Territory:—

District.	*Hospital.*	*Dispensary.*	
	In-Patients.	*First Attendances.*	*Total Attendances.*
Maseru	981	13,633	25,857
Leribe	737	12,726	18,616
Mafeteng	571	11,049	16,720
Mohale's Hoek	490	7,988	11,387
Qacha's Nek	430	8,356	11,716
Quthing	306	5,310	8,621
Teyateyaneng	75	8,423	10,752
Mokhotlong	54	4,764	7,138
Totals	3,644	72,249	110,807

The following table indicates the prevalence of the more common infectious diseases in 1937 as compared with the year 1936:—

Disease.	*No. of Cases.*	
	1936	1937
Influenza	551	1,585
Typhoid Fever	183	225
Dysentery	67	216
Typhus Fever	51	16
Whooping Cough	413	1,332
Measles	97	138
Smallpox	—	—
Scarlet Fever	11	8
Diphtheria	3	14
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	496	423
Plague	17	—

Apart from whooping cough, which assumed epidemic proportions among children, and influenza of a mild type, the Territory has been exceptionally free of infectious diseases. It is remarkable to note that typhus fever which has been endemic in the Territory for many years, and four years ago accounted for hundreds of deaths, has now almost entirely vanished; only 16 cases were reported in 1937. There were no cases of plague or smallpox. An increase in the number of cases of typhoid fever is probably due to heavy rains in January and February which infected unprotected village springs. There has been a very appreciable reduction in the number of cases of tuberculosis; in 1935 there were 549 cases of the pulmonary type, in 1936 496 cases, and in 1937 423 cases. There can now be little doubt that the high incidence of 1935 was a result of the drought and deficient food supplies in 1933-4, and that with the good crops in 1935-6-7 the resistance of the population has improved.

While, as has been stated in the preceding paragraph, the general nutrition of the tribe has improved very appreciably, the fact that pellagra (270 cases) and scurvy (120) are of frequent occurrence, and indeed are increasing, is evidence that though the present diet of the Basuto is not deficient in quantity it is so in certain nutritive and protective substances—particularly proteins, fats and vitamins. Government is making strenuous efforts, by propaganda and otherwise, to persuade the people to alter an almost entirely maize diet to a more varied one. The Agricultural Department has succeeded in persuading many families to plant small vegetable plots, and during the past year it was gratifying to see the number of vegetables offered for sale and bought among the Basuto themselves. A further step in the attempt to introduce a more varied diet is the purchase by Government of stud bulls of good milk-producing stock. It is also proposed to encourage the breeding of a Swiss type of milk-producing goat.

It is gratifying to report that the Roman Catholic and the French Protestant Missions are making determined efforts to carry out medical mission work by qualified doctors. The Roman Catholic Mission have opened a hospital at Roma and are constructing another in the heart of the Maluti mountains at Ntaote's.

The French Protestant Mission have built a hospital with 25 beds at Morija. It will be ready to function in May, 1938, and will be served by a qualified medical missionary. The funds for building this hospital, called the " Scott Hospital," were given by Mr. William Scott, M.B.E., who for many years has been in business in Mafeteng. In addition, the Chamber of Mines and the trustees of the late Miss Robertson, also connected for many years with Basutoland, have very substantially endowed the hospital to meet the annual maintenance costs.

These medical missions will contribute substantially towards providing greater medical facilities in the Territory, where at present there is on the average one doctor to serve 40,000 of the population.

Leper Settlement.

The leper settlement, opened in 1914 at Botsabelo four miles from Maseru, is actually part of the Medical Department though it has a separate departmental vote. It is staffed by a Medical Superintendent, a Medical Officer, a Matron, and two European Staff Nurses. The medical staff is additional to the general medical staff referred to at the beginning of this section.

The population of the leper settlement on the 31st of December, 1937, was 669 as compared with 684 in 1936 and 707 in 1935. One hundred and four new cases of leprosy were admitted. Six Native Leprosy Inspectors, appointed in 1929,

andronicus

are stationed in different parts of the Territory and tour from village to village for the purpose of examining all persons showing any sign of leprosy. The value of this organization is shown by the fact that cases are now brought to the asylum while the disease is at an early stage, and therefore much more likely to be cured by appropriate treatment; indeed, so mild are many of the cases that only an expert would diagnose leprosy. The following comparative table supports this statement:—

Year.	*Duration of the disease in months on admission to the Settlement.*			
	1–12 months.	*12–24 months.*	*Over 2 years.*	*Unknown.*
	Per cent.	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*
1924	31	37	32	—
1929	41	24·5	34·5	—
1935	59·8	22·4	17·8	—
1936	55	18·6	25·6	—
1937	48·9	17	13·6	20

An encouraging feature is that suspected cases are readily presented to the Inspectors for examination and, if certified as lepers, they not only go willingly to the settlement but ask to be admitted, because there is now a widespread feeling among the tribe that the institution is a place where their disease is cured, and they no longer regard it as a form of imprisonment as they did for several years after compulsory segregation was first established in 1914. This confidence is due to the number of cases which, having been admitted at an early stage, are discharged with the disease cured or arrested after a comparatively short period of residence. Seventy-one patients were discharged in 1937 with the disease cured or arrested as compared with 68 in 1936 and 58 in 1935.

A recent survey in a portion of the Mafeteng District by the Medical Officer of the settlement revealed that in an area with a population of 15,000 there were only four cases of active leprosy, all of them in very early and mild stages. It can therefore be justifiably assumed that the measures which have been taken in past years to control the disease are now bearing fruit, and that within a reasonable time leprosy in Basutoland will no longer be a problem of major importance.

V.—HOUSING.

There are no factories or industrial undertakings in Basutoland, and the problem of the proper accommodation of workers has not arisen.

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The Basuto live in villages under tribal authority and their huts are, on the whole, healthy, if primitive. These huts are built of sods or stone, with a mud floor and thatched roof; and the average number of persons to each hut occupied was 2·35 in 1936 as compared with 2·84 in 1921.

The small European population consists of civil servants, missionaries and traders, and is, as a rule, well housed in buildings of cut stone or brick.

VI.—NATURAL RESOURCES.

Development.

Extent of cultivation.—According to the latest estimate* 10 per cent. of the total area of the Territory is under cultivation. The figures are:—

Total area, 7,498,240 acres.
Area under cultivation, 749,824 acres.

It does not follow that the whole of this cultivated acreage is under the plough in any one year; but in a good season like the one under review it can be assumed that practically all the arable land available has been ploughed and sown.

In the lowland regions the area devoted to grazing is relatively small; the main pasture lands are in the mountains where whole valleys are utilized solely for this purpose. The following extract from the Ecological Survey Report† is interesting in this connection, " . . . little use of the mountains proper was made by the Basuto until towards the end of last century, when settlement, starting in the Orange River valley, began to make rapid strides. Then gradually, with the saturation of the lowland grazing, outposts were established in the mountains by the bigger stock owners . . . ."

Forestry.—With the exception of seven wooded valleys which are under complete protection, the Territory is practically devoid of trees of any sort, but steps have been, and are being, taken to remedy this state of affairs. The free issue of Robinia Pseudacacia seed and seedlings continues to be made to natives for the purpose of starting small plantations in and around their villages, both as an anti-soil erosion measure and to provide a future source of firewood and material for hut-building. As an additional measure, planting—chiefly of Robinias and poplars—is undertaken by the Administration wherever soil-erosion work is in progress.

For several years past, fruit trees have been issued to those natives who have laid out well-terraced gardens and who have followed the advice of the Agricultural Department with regard

* See note on page 17.
† See page 16.

to vegetable growing. These gifts have been much appreciated and the majority of the trees issued have been well tended and have made excellent growth.

Mineral Development.—No mineral development has taken place in the Territory.

Possibilities for Development.—In regard to the lowland areas it may definitely be stated that any further increase in cultivation at any rate of an extensive nature—is impossible. Much greater use could, however, be made of the land already under cultivation by the adoption of more intensive methods and the application of scientific principles. To bring this about is one of the main objects of agricultural policy.

In the mountains there exist possibilities for an extension of the arable areas, especially in so far as concerns the cultivation of wheat, peas, beans and vegetables.

Soil-erosion.—One result of the Pim Commission Report published in 1935* was the grant of a loan of £160,233 from the Colonial Development Fund for anti-soil erosion work. This money became available in October, 1936, and anti-erosion measures were immediately undertaken on an extensive scale. The purchase of power units for the construction of contour banks gave a tremendous impetus to the work.

The following table shows the progress that has been made to date:—

Measure.	*Previous to 1937.*	*During 1937.*	*Total to end of 1937.*
Area reclaimed, in acres ...	1,569	6,747	8,316
Length of contour bank constructed, in yards ...	121,938	736,893	858,831†
Number of dams constructed	23	6	29
Number of trees planted...	12,070	31,226	43,296
Area fenced, in acres ...	155½	112	267½

† *Note.*—This does not include the many thousands of yards of partially completed work cut by plant but necessitating manual work for finishing.

Contour banks constructed in pasture lands have been sown or planted with selected varieties of grasses, and those in cultivated areas with lucerne. This aspect of the work will increase considerably the carrying capacity of the pasture, as has been proved by the large-scale demonstration experiment conducted on the Maseru reserve.

The beneficial results hoped for are already discernible in the gradual reclamation of formerly denuded areas and in the silting up and grassing over of dongas. Areas not yet affected have been safeguarded against possible future erosion.

* Cmd. 4907.

The increased water absorption in the areas worked has led to the betterment of crops in cultivated lands, and to the improvement, to a very considerable degree, of pasture density and growth. The planting of selected varieties of trees in gullies and the establishment of fenced plantations (each in itself a direct anti soil-erosion measure) will provide the natives with wood for fuel and other purposes—a great necessity in this Territory which possesses, in proportion to the population, a negligible amount of natural bush.

Research and Experimental Work.

The Ecological Survey.—An ecological survey of the mountain areas of Basutoland was planned and carried out during the period under review. The work was started on the 1st October, 1936, and completed by the end of March, 1937. A most interesting report, which included vegetation and stock distribution maps, was submitted to the Administration. Various recommendations regarding pasture experiments and pasture management were made. The report and the recommendations are now under consideration.

One of the recommendations made in the report, namely, the laying down of grazing experiments in the lowland and mountain districts of the Territory, has been approved. Plots will be fenced and the experiments started during the coming season.

At the same time as the survey was being carried out, the opportunity was taken to collect data for a report on the main bridle-paths of the mountain areas. This report has been issued, and work is already under way on a scheme embodying the recommendations made.

Maseru Experimental Station.—During the year under review the following experimental work was carried out at this station, which has now been in existence since 1935:—

(*a*) The testing of strong, high-gluten content wheats for resistance to disease and general suitability for growth in Basutoland.

(*b*) The testing of varieties of maize and sorghum, primarily for early maturity and yield.

(*c*) The testing of a great variety of grasses, particularly stoloniferous varieties, for use in connection with anti-soil erosion work.

(*d*) The production of fruit trees for use in conjunction with the vegetable and horticulture schemes.

(*e*) The production of Robinia Pseudacacia and other trees which coppice rapidly, for planting in badly-eroded watershed and other areas to consolidate anti-soil erosion measures.

Winter cereal experimental work.—Drought, a severe hail storm, and ultimately a bad attack of " rust " were responsible for the disappointing results attending this work, particularly in the case of the dry-land plots.

Of those varieties of imported wheat which were subjected to experiment, Reward, Marquis, Ruby, Red Bobs and Reliance give the greatest promise at present. Good grain was produced from them which showed remarkably good milling and baking qualities.

Summer cereal experimental work.—The season was very favourable for the growth of summer cereals, and excellent results were obtained. A number of strains of early-maturing varieties of sorghum, imported from Swaziland, give promise of being a most useful introduction for the Territory They matured four to six weeks earlier than the earliest local varieties.

Boesman or Mazena Bread mealies have been found to be the most suitable for late planting, and North American White Flint, Anveldt, Wisconsin and Synthetic for early planting.

Grass experimental work.—Research along these lines was considerably extended during the season. Besides Kikuyu, which has so far proved to be the most useful introduction for anti-soil erosion work, Poa Indermis and Cynodon Dactylon (varieties indigenous to Basutoland) with Agrostis Tenuis give promise of proving very valuable for planting on contour banks.

Principal Crops.

The principal crops grown in the Territory are maize, wheat and sorghum, followed in order of importance by peas, beans, barley and vegetables.

In the mountain areas the most reliable crops are wheat, peas and barley, all of them sown in early spring, while maize and sorghum flourish better in the comparatively warm lowlands, and a relatively small proportion of these crops is produced in the highlands. Other lowland products are autumn-sown wheat and spring-sown beans, vegetables and fruit.

The approximate acreage of the principal crops sown during the present season, and the yield secured, is given in the following table. For purposes of comparison the same figures for 1936 are also given.*

* The Agricultural Department has this season put into effect a more up-to-date method of calculating the total acreage sown to the chief crops and of estimating the total production. This fact will have to be taken into account when comparing last year's figures with those for the present year. It has been estimated that approximately 10 per cent. of the total area of the Territory is under cultivation, and during a good season like the present it can be taken that all available arable land is put under the plough and sown.

Crop.	Acreage sown.	Yield in bags of 200 lb.	Remarks.
		1937.	
Maize	374,912	1,135,983	An exceptionally good season.
Wheat	234,313	383,645	The wheat crop in the lowlands was practically a failure, but an excellent crop was grown in the mountain districts.
Sorghum	93,728	297,117	The sorghum crop in the lowlands was excellent.
Peas, beans, barley, and other crops.	46,864	148,558	Outstanding crops of peas and barley were grown in the mountain districts during the season under review.
		1936.	
Maize	249,941	491,144	
Wheat	124,970	245,572	
Sorghum	93,729	184,179	
Peas, beans, barley, and other crops.	31,242	61,393	

Observations.—The following table shows that, comparing 1936 and 1937, both the acreage put under cultivation and the yields obtained have increased considerably.

Acreage.	Total yield in bags.	Yield per acre.
	1937.	
749,817	1,965,303	2·6
	1936.	
499,882	982,288	1·96

This is accounted for as follows:—

Acreage.—(1) Under the old system of calculating the crop returns, it was estimated that $\frac{1}{15}$th (or 6·7 per cent.) of the total area of the Territory* was under cultivation. The new system puts this acreage at 10 per cent. of the total, indicating that the figures given for previous years have been too low.

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* To calculate the percentage acreage sown to the different crops, the following fractions are used, which are considered after a number of years' investigation to represent the proportionate acreage of the chief crops sown.

(*a*) $\frac{1}{2}$ total acreage = total acreage of maize.
(*b*) $\frac{5}{15}$,, ,, = ,, ,, ,, wheat.
(*c*) $\frac{1}{5}$,, ,, = ,, ,, ,, sorghum.
(*d*) $\frac{1}{15}$,, ,, = ,, ,, ,, peas, beans, and other crops.

The average number of bags per acre for each of these crops is arrived at by taking the average return for the Territory of all the native-worked check plots of each variety as furnished by the Annual Demonstration Returns. The total group produced is finally arrived at by multiplying the total estimated acreage under that particular crop by the check-plot average for the season in question. It is considered that the new system gives a much truer estimate than was obtainable by the old method.

(2) The continued increase in population.

Yield.—(1) The increase in the yield per acre, as compared with 1936, is to some extent only apparent. As indicated above, the estimated acreage for 1936 and previous years was too low. The estimated yield was too small also but not, probably, in the same proportion.

(2) The season from the point of view of crop production generally has been the best since 1932-3.

Local Consumption.—The following figures should be read as approximations only:—

(*a*) Locally-produced maize as a percentage of total amount consumed—95 per cent.

(*b*) Locally-produced sorghum as a percentage of total amount consumed—96 per cent.

(*c*) Locally-consumed wheat as a percentage of total amount produced—55 per cent.†

(*d*) Locally-consumed peas, beans, barley, and other crops as a percentage of total amount produced—98 per cent.

Vegetable Production.—The development of vegetable production continues to make rapid progress. The Basuto are realizing that by utilizing the denuded areas round their villages they can produce a large amount of palatable and healthful food. Last season, 837 gardens were laid out under the supervision of the Agricultural Department, and during the period under review this figure has increased to 1,774. It is the aim of the Department to have at least 20,000 gardens established by the end of the next five years. The necessity for the establishment of terraced vegetable gardens to improve the diet of the people and as a direct anti-erosion measure was stressed in last year's report.

The past season was a most successful one for vegetable production, and many natives produced far more than they could themselves consume. Sales were organized at a number of centres so that the surplus could be disposed of. Good prices were obtained, chiefly from other natives who had not yet established gardens of their own.

Pasture.—Since the drought of 1933 the Territory has been considerably understocked, and this fact, coupled with four seasons' plentiful rain, has resulted in an extraordinary improvement in pasture conditions, especially in the mountains. Large tracts of grazing, formerly rendered useless by the spread of Bitter Karroo Bush (*Crysocoma Tenuifolia*) have now to some extent reverted to fair grass.

† This figure is undoubtedly too high as no account is taken of the export of wheat by individual natives and hawkers, figures for which it is impossible as yet to obtain.

Organization.

Land Tenure.—With the exception of the Government Reserves and land provided for the various missions, all land in Basutoland is held by the people under the communal system. In actual practice there is a difference in the application of the system to grazing land and to cultivated land. All grazing land, including the grazing on cultivated land after the crops are removed, is strictly communal. The arable or cultivated land, while remaining the property of the Nation, is granted to family heads under the ancient and well-known " three field " system. In Basutoland there is no recognized or standard acreage laid down with regard to the size of these fields, which vary according to the amount of arable land available; for example, those allowed in the lowlands vary in size from those allowed in the highlands. The standing of the individual is also taken into consideration. The usual size of a field for commoners in the mountains is estimated at an average of two acres, and in the lowlands at three acres.

The Producer.—In Basutoland the family is the production group, the family being taken to include the father, wife and all unmarried children. It cannot be said that such groups are highly organized or rigidly defined, and many exceptions occur. But as a general rule the individual as such has no place in the economy. The most striking exceptions are those cases—recently becoming more numerous—of native-owned stores, small craftsmanship enterprises, and transport concerns.

Associations.—At the present time there are quite a number of Farmers' Associations of various types in the Territory. They are not co-operative societies in the true sense (absence of joint liability being a general feature), and most of them are of very limited membership and as yet in their infancy. It is the desire of the Administration to give these embryo societies every encouragement, and recently small grants were made to the Leribe and Peka Associations to assist with regard to prize money, etc., for the running of agricultural shows. The general object behind these associations is to stimulate interest in approved agricultural methods, to arrange demonstrations, introduce better quality seed and stock, and to organize schemes for co-operative buying and selling.

Demonstration Work.

At present there are 26 Native Agricultural Demonstrators employed in the Territory. These men work under the supervision of the Agricultural Officers on the lowlands and the Assistant Agricultural and Livestock Officers in the mountain areas. The agricultural demonstration plots worked by these

men were in most districts outstanding, and a slow but sure improvement in the general agricultural methods practised by the Basuto, due to the lessons learned through demonstration work, can be seen.

The campaign for the laying out of properly terraced gardens and the growing of vegetables and fruit trees is in the hands of the Agricultural Demonstrators, and is taking up an increasing amount of their time.

During the season the Demonstrators were responsible for working the following number of field plots:—

Wheat (including Manitoba), 255.
Maize, 362.
Sorghum, 73.
Potatoes, 4.
Peas and Beans, 14.

Animal Husbandry.

The year 1937 has been notable for the inauguration of certain progressive measures and the consolidation and elaboration of those already introduced in the previous year. These livestock improvement schemes will be dealt with under various headings. Fortunately, climatic conditions during the late summer and autumn were favourable, but the winter, spring and early summer were associated with severe drought conditions reacting adversely on livestock.

Sheep and Goats.

The eradication of scab from this Territory may well be regarded as one of the greatest achievements in the annals of veterinary history in South Africa. Had this disease remained in existence, the sheep and wool improvement measures now in progress could never have been tackled.

Compulsory monthly dosing under supervision with an approved vermifuge was continued throughout the year, and 11,761,045 doses were administered. Very satisfactory accounts of the results derived from dosing have been received from all quarters, and it is obvious that stock-owners are quickly coming to realize the financial benefits which follow successful attempts to improve stock condition.

Every consideration is given to the flock owner, so that any sequelae which might jeopardize the measure may be avoided. It is not the practice, for example, to dose pregnant ewes during the period of two weeks before and two weeks after parturition. The number of dosing sites has been increased, thus reducing the distances over which stock has to be driven.

All stock are dosed by the owners themselves under the supervision of officers of the Veterinary Department; the Government provides the dosing remedy and the sheep farmer pays for it

by purchasing coupons which are exchangeable for the material at the dosing centres. Dosing coupons can be obtained from agents distributed throughout the Territory.

Many of the difficulties encountered during the initial stages of the scheme have now been overcome, a fact which is due in no small measure to the active co-operation of the Paramount Chief and his people. This is deserving of special mention since, without this co-operation, such satisfactory results could never have been achieved.

Improvement of Wool.

As indicated in the 1936 report, all adult " bastard " rams have been emasculated, and during the present year 13,287 unsuitable rams were dealt with in similar manner. This figure does not include those castrated by the owners themselves.

To compensate for the reduction resulting from these measures, 290 selected merino rams were imported and distributed. They were mature animals and were not subjected to an initial period of acclimatization, as previous experience has proved this precaution unnecessary where universal dosing is in force.

The total number of selected rams imported during the last three years is 1,263.

Wool Classing.

In pursuance of the policy initiated as a result of certain recommendations made by Sir Alan Pim in his Report* on the Financial and Economic Position of Basutoland, wool classing was commenced in the spring of this year. As a result of the measures against " scab " and the introduction of merino rams to replace emasculated bastard animals, the quality of the wool produced in the Territory has been greatly improved: the next step is to ensure that this improved product shall be offered to the market to the best advantage.

As a basis, eight stationary shearing-sheds have been erected and 16 portable shearing outfits put into commission. The stationary sheds have been established in the lowlands and the lowland flock-owners have been encouraged to bring their animals to them for clipping under supervision. The portable shearing outfits are transferred from site to site in the mountains with the same object.

During the season both the portable and the stationary sheds have been well patronized; in fact, in some areas the demands have exceeded all expectations. A temporary European wool-classing expert was appointed to help with heavy work in the Qacha's Nek district: otherwise all the supervisory work was done by officers of the European Field Staff, assisted by trained

* Cmd. 4907.

members of the Native Agricultural Staff. It is hoped in time to train the native farmer to perform his own wool-classing himself.

The final step is to establish definite lines for the classed product on the market, and already considerable headway has been made along these lines. Unfortunately, owing to the unsettled state of the international position, the wool market has suffered heavy downward fluctuations in prices, making the position difficult for buyers and disappointing for producers. Nevertheless, in spite of this, most of the traders in the Territory showed a willingness to pay higher prices for classed wool offered to them than for the unclassed product.

During the season, the number of sheep shorn under official supervision amounted to 40,886.

Census.

A small stock census taken during the year revealed a smaller decrease than has occurred for some time. It may safely be stated that the small stock population of the Territory is gradually being built up and should soon reach the normal carrying capacity. The chief factor responsible is the decrease in the mortality rate resulting from the effects of internal parasites.

Year.	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1937.*
Total number of sheep and goats	2,000,000	1,717,826	1,674,964	1,695,325
Decrease from previous year ...	—	282,374	42,862	—
Increase from previous year ...	—	—	—	20,361

Figures for exports of wool and mohair are given in Chapter VII.

Cattle.

Anthrax.—As a result of the measures taken during the past few years the incidence of anthrax in the Territory has been substantially decreased, and it has been decided to discontinue inoculation except in certain areas from which the disease has not yet been eradicated. At the moment there are ten such infected areas, and all cattle in them will be required to undergo inoculation twice in the year.

All cattle leaving the Territory must be inoculated immediately prior to removal.

Cattle Improvement.—The policy of emasculating inferior bulls on a voluntary basis was pursued, and as a result 1,778 animals were so dealt with. This does not include the numbers emasculated by the natives themselves. The prohibition against the introduction of " scrub " bulls has been maintained.

The " bull camp " system referred to in the 1936 report has proceeded successfully and has resulted in the erection of these camps at the following sites:—

Site.	*District.*	*No. of Bulls.*	*Breed.*	
			Afrikaner.	*Sussex.*
Matsieng ...	Maseru	2	2	—
Hlotse Camp ...	Leribe	3	2	1
Tsime	Butha Buthe ...	3	3	—
Schlabathebe ...	Qacha's Nek ...	3	3	—
Malimong ...	Berea	4	3	1
Moholobela's ...	Mafeteng	3	2	1
Maphutseng ...	Mohale's Hoek ...	4	3	1
Sempe's ...	Quthing	3	3	—

Money for the erection of the camps was provided by a loan of £640 from the Colonial Development Fund, and that required for the purchase of bulls from local revenue.

Any native cattle-owner is in a position to apply for permission to take his cows to a bull camp, where service is given free under certain conditions. The most important condition is that the cows entered shall be marked and an undertaking obtained from the owner to produce the marked animal and its calf the following season. If the calf is a female, it in turn will be marked and used at a later date for further breeding. The scheme is entirely voluntary and preference is given to selected cows. To prevent the influence of this breeding scheme from being confined to the areas in proximity to the bull camps, bulls are loaned out to approved persons well dispersed throughout the Territory. In this way it is expected to expedite and render more general the resulting improvement.

A cattle census was taken during the year, revealing an increase of 4,049 units over 1936. The comparative figures are: 1936, 414,872; 1937, 418,921.

Preparation of Hides and Skins for the Market.—In addition to the policy of continuous verbal propaganda and demonstration, a pamphlet dealing with this subject was issued in English and Sesuto for circulation amongst native farmers and traders in Basutoland.

Cattle Export Trade.—There is practically no export from the Territory of cattle for slaughter. So far as the trek ox is concerned, however, quite an extensive trade is carried on. Farmers and dealers from the adjacent areas in the Union introduce " tollies " and barter them for the trek ox on a basis of two " tollies " for one ox.

Horses.

Mention was made in the 1936 report of an Equine Improvement Scheme which was to be launched in 1937. During the year, 19 stallions and 5 Catalonian donkey " Jacks " were

introduced from the Union. There are now 20 stallions and 7 Catalonian donkey " Jacks " doing service in this connection, and during the coming year the Government propose to extend the scheme.

The distribution of the stallions and " Jacks " is given in the following table:—

District.	*Stallions.*	*" Jacks."*
Maseru	4	—
Mafeteng	3	2
Mohale's Hoek	3	3
Quthing	2	2
Qacha's Nek	3	—
Mokhotlong	2	—
Butha Buthe	1	—
Leribe	2	—
Teyateyaneng	—	—

It is estimated (final figures are not yet available) that over 400 mares were served by these stallions and " Jacks " during the spring and early summer. Unfortunately a severe drought was experienced during the service season with very adverse effects.

The two Arab stallions mentioned in the 1936 report are now domiciled in the mountains and are doing good service.

The service fee of 5s. has been increased to 10s. The fee is collected by the custodians of the loaned stallions and " Jacks " for their own account to reimburse them for the care and management of their charges. With the exception of the Central Stud at Maseru only native mares are accepted for service.

Concurrent with this improvement scheme is that of the elimination of undesirable stallions, 626 of which were emasculated during the year.

Mules.

Mule population has decreased from 1,275 in 1936 to 1,068 in 1937, accentuating still more the great shortage of pack mules in the Territory. It is hoped, however, to build up this essential industry in the years to come by a continuance of the Government's policy of introducing Catalonian " Jacks " and of issuing them on loan to approved breeders.

Donkeys.

The importation of donkeys into Basutoland is restricted. Despite the fact that there are 22,766 donkeys in the country, there is an increasing demand for these animals. They are largely used for transporting produce from the mountain areas. Donkeys are much sought after and, although tempting prices are offered, those who require them within the Territory find difficulty in acquiring suitable animals even at prices ranging from £2 to £2 10s.

The following are the census figures for the equines for 1935-6-7:—

	Horses.	*Mules.*	*Donkeys.*
1935	79,701	986	18,911
1936	84,650	1,275	22,361
1937	85,017	1,068	22,766

VII.—COMMERCE.

The most important factor characterizing the external trade of Basutoland is the excess of imports over exports measured in terms of goods. The monetary value of this adverse balance amounted in 1937 to nearly £400,000. The same figures for 1934, 1935 and 1936 are, respectively, £282,000, £257,186 and £409,932. This continued adverse balance is rendered possible by the existence of an export of labour to the mines and farms in the Union resulting in an in-flow of cash to Basutoland.

The internal trade of the Territory presents few outstanding features. Practically the whole of the retail trade is in the hands of Europeans, although during the past few years the number of native-owned stores has increased. Comparatively little bartering is carried on between the natives themselves.

The two main foodstuffs of the Basuto are maize and sorghum in that order, with wheat and peas coming third and fourth, and in 1937 the unfavourable balance of imports over exports in respect of maize, sorghum and peas amounted approximately to 57,000 bags, or £41,000 in value. When, however, the figures for total imports and total exports of foodstuffs as a whole are examined, it is seen that for the year under review there was a favourable surplus amounting in value to £92,836. The exportation of strong wheat from the mountain areas is the main factor responsible, £132,386 worth being exported in 1937 as against £9,282 imported. Climatic and soil conditions in the mountains are favourable to the growth of strong wheat, and for the sale of each bag of wheat the native can, in general, obtain approximately $1\frac{3}{4}$ bags of maize in exchange. In this conection it is worth noting that during recent years the natives have increased their consumption of home-grown wheat very considerably.

Commodities occupying a preponderant position in the export trade of the Territory are wool, wheat, mohair and cattle: in 1937 the values exported bore the following proportions to total exports:—

Wool, 40·8 per cent.
Wheat, 35·7 per cent.
Mohair, 15·5 per cent.
Cattle, 7 per cent.

During the year under review the general rise in value of wheat, mohair and cattle has been reflected in the prices obtainable for these commodities in Basutoland. In the case of wool there has been no such rise in value, but nevertheless, due to an improvement in quality, the price obtainable by the natives has come more into line with general prices elsewhere.

Table (1).

Value in £'s of total imports and total exports for the years 1920 and 1928 and the years 1934-7.

	Imports.	*Exports.*
1920	1,180,986	937,038
1928	921,573	1,013,392
1934	566,767	284,522
1935	588,331	331,145
1936	712,125	302,193
1937	760,736	368,629

Table (2).

Values and quantities of principal imports for the years 1936-7.

	1936.		*1937.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£
Merchandise		524,500		683,578
Livestock—	*No.*		*No.*	
Horses, Mules, etc. ...	182	759	1,806	6,514
Cattle	2,889	8,797	4,599	14,357
Sheep and Goats ...	73	61	629	554
Grain—	*Bags.*		*Bags.*	
Wheat and wheat meal	6,580	8,446	6,378	9,282
Maize and maize meal	207,735	145,728	55,515	37,049
Kaffir corn	23,518	22,868	10,663	8,651
Other produce		966		751
Totals ...		712,125		760,736

Table (3).

Values and quantities of principal domestic exports for the years 1936-7.

	1936.		*1937.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
Livestock—	*No.*	£	*No.*	£
Horses, Mules, etc.	53	313	102	575
Cattle	6,613	34,365	4,954	25,885
Sheep and Goats	43	37	—	—
Grain—	*Bags.*		*Bags.*	
Wheat and wheat meal ...	96,250	65,796	171,441	132,386
Maize and maize meal... ...	395	284	4,858	1,864
Kaffir corn	656	589	2,518	1,215
Barley	276	107	750	287
Beans and peas...	2,544	1,641	1,752	1,092
Wool and Mohair—	*lb.*		*lb.*	
Wool	5,986,871	154,329	4,662,779	142,899
Mohair	817,849	42,124	782,221	57,615
Hides and Skins—	*lb.*		*lb.*	
Hides	95,806	1,762	132,483	3,300
Skins	60,091	764	62,823	1,253
Miscellaneous		82		258
Totals		302,193		368,629

Table (4).

The following comparative table for 1936 *and* 1937 *indicates the source or origin of motor vehicles registered in the Territory.*

Country of Origin.	*New Registrations.*		*Total Registrations.*	
	1936.	*1937.*	*1936.*	*1937.*
Private Motor Vehicles and Taxis.				
Great Britain	11	9	28	27
Canada	22	—	53	—
United States of America ...	122	165	420	493
Germany	—	—	1	1
Italy	—	—	1	—
France	—	1	2	2
	155	175	505	523
Commercial Vehicles.				
Great Britain	7	2	16	12
Canada	13	—	34	—
United States of America ...	35	49	100	141
Germany	1	—	1	1
	56	51	151	154
Motor Cycles.				
Great Britain	4	5	8	14
United States of America ...	1	—	6	2
	5	5	14	16

Observations.

Total imports and exports for the year 1928 have been included, as the comparison between the figures for that year and those for 1937 are interesting. 1928 was the last year in which exports were greater than imports. Going further back, however, it is seen that in 1920 the value of total imports equalled £1,180,986, while exports amounted only to £937,038, suggesting that the present position where imports exceed exports is not a trend of recent years.

Merchandise.—Since 1931 there has been a continuous increase in the amount of merchandise imported, although the figure for the present year is still below the 1928 total. The figures for 1920, 1928, 1931 and 1937 are £1,091,000, £881,767, £389,237 and £685,578, respectively.

Wool.—Just as merchandise forms the chief import group, so is wool the main article of export. Since 1928 the figures show a drop from 12,000,000 lb. to 4,500,000 lb. There has been a steady decline in the amount exported since 1935.

Imports.—All the figures for imports given in the tables and elsewhere relate only to imports made by private individuals. In addition to these, account must be taken of imports made by Government. The estimate for this year places the figure at £45,000; this, however, must be regarded as only approximate.

Sources and destination.—All exports are made to the Union and imports are as a general rule made through the same channel. It is therefore very difficult to give figures detailing imports in respect of the country of origin or to indicate the area of destination in respect of exports.

VIII.—LABOUR.

The following table shows the number of passes issued during the past four years to enable natives to leave the Territory to take up or seek employment in the Union of South Africa:—

	1934.	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1937.*
Mines—				
Gold	22,994	29,502	34,877	30,460
Coal	156	472	627	1,428
Diamonds	220	83	229	847
Manganese	—	—	305	265
Other Mines	—	—	—	130
Total Mines ...	23,370	30,057	36,038	33,130
Agricultural	6,700	5,584	6,964	3,782
Miscellaneous Labour ...	8,372	9,852	13,878	14,811*
Totals	38,442	45,493	56,880	51,723

* Includes Railway Construction 88
Roads 84
Other Public Works 206

The gold mines on the Witwatersrand continue to affect to a substantial degree the economic position of the Territory, employing annually large numbers of Basuto. At the close of the year 1937, 39,452 Basuto were employed in these mines.

In addition to the Basuto employed in the gold-mines there is always a fairly large number engaged in other occupations in the industrial areas of the Union. The following numbers were so employed as on the 31st December, 1937: Gold, 39,453; Coal, 2,242; Diamonds, 1,736; Other Employment, 9,843; Total, 53,273.

Many of the Basuto on the Witwatersrand remit money to their families in Basutoland through the Native Recruiting Corporation, Limited, and the Native Deposit and Remittance Agency,

and a large percentage of the natives recruited for the mines defer a portion of their earnings for payment to them on their return to Basutoland. Many of them also make remittances through the post, and it is estimated that an amount at least equal to the amount remitted through other channels is remitted in this way, though statistics cannot be obtained. During the year under review a sum of £103,262 was remitted by Basuto to their families through the Native Recruiting Corporation, and £131,341 was paid out as deferred wages, whilst a sum of over £7,000 was paid out through the Native Deposit and Remittance Agency and through other sources.

During the year 1932 an office was opened temporarily in Johannesburg for the purpose of collecting tax from Basutoland natives employed on the Witwatersrand. At the beginning of 1933 the Agency was re-opened and it has been maintained ever since. The Agency at first dealt only with the collection of revenue, but its functions were soon extended in the direction of dealing with the domestic affairs of the Basuto on the Witwatersrand, encouraging them to save money, giving them home news, counteracting as far as possible the temptations of their environment, repatriating those who are indigent and, generally, giving advice and assistance to them whenever required.

The Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland now share in the Agency which thus deals with natives from all three High Commission Territories, both in regard to the collection of taxes and in general welfare work.

The amount of Basutoland tax collected at the Agency during the years 1932-3 to 1936-7 was: 1932-3, £24,128; 1933-4, £26,500; 1934-5, £33,146; 1935-6, £34,303; 1936-7, £34,477.

It will be noticed that the amount collected during the financial year 1936-7 bears a proportion of 22·2 per cent. to the total tax collected for the whole Territory.

In the Territory itself there is no great demand for industrial labour. A small number of natives find employment with transport concerns and as shop and warehouse assistants, and there is always a certain demand by Government for labourers in road making and anti-soil-erosion work and the like.

Labour Legislation.

Proclamation No. 37 of 1936 enables the High Commissioner to regulate the level of wages paid to natives in any occupation or in any area within the Territory. A minimum wage-level may be prescribed by Notice in the Official Gazette.

Proclamation No. 71 of 1937 regulates the conditions of employment of women, young persons and children in industrial undertakings, and prohibits the employment of any person under the age of 12 years in any such undertaking, whether public or private, unless it shall be owned by that child's parents.

No young person under the age of 18 years may be employed in any industrial undertaking unless a special licence is obtained from the Resident Commissioner. The issue of such licence shall not, however, authorize the engagement of such a person under 18 for employment on night work.

No woman may be employed during the night in any public or private undertaking unless such undertaking is owned by the family to which the woman belongs.

For the purpose of the Proclamations just cited, the term " night " means a period of at least 11 consecutive hours including the interval between 10 o'clock in the evening and 5 o'clock in the morning.

The term " industrial undertaking " includes mining and quarrying and other extractive processes, manufacturing industries of all types, the generation of light and power, construction, transport and communications.

No native is granted a pass for contract work in any undertaking outside the Territory unless the conditions of employment therein are in the opinion of the Administration of a satisfactory standard.

IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

There are no factories or industrial undertakings in the Territory, and there is only one mile of railway which is owned and operated by the South African Railway Administration.

Salaries and wages earned by Europeans vary from £200 to £1,000 per annum in the case of Government servants and from £120 to £600 per annum in the case of employees of trading concerns.

Native wages vary from £24 to £250 per annum in the case of Government employees and from £15 to £48 per annum in the case of store boys, etc., employed by traders.

Natives proceeding to the gold-mines in the Union of South Africa receive, on an average, a wage of £3 for every 30 shifts worked, with free food and housing.

The average cost of living for single natives is estimated at £1 *per mensem*, and for married natives £3 *per mensem*. The cost of living of Europeans varies considerably and is in a great measure dependent on the social or official position of the person concerned.

X.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education in Basutoland presents most of the problems attending African education in other territories, with the additional difficulty that the country is for the most part very mountainous with much of its " highlander " population settled sparsely along isolated valleys difficult of access.

In spite of this, the situation to-day is that education of an elementary sort at least is accessible to practically all the people. That this is appreciated by them is evidenced by the voluntary school enrolment of approximately two-thirds of the children of school-going age; undoubtedly a remarkable, if not unique, phenomenon in Africa, and striking evidence of the devotion and enterprise of the missionaries who, with grants-in-aid from the Government, have brought it about. The three missions mainly concerned are the Paris Evangelical Missionary Society, the Roman Catholic Mission, and the English Church Mission. Of these the first-named is the oldest, with over a century of work behind it in Basutoland, and has reached a point in its development when it is no longer to be thought of as a " mission " in the ordinary use of the term, since as the result of the faith and foresight of its pioneers it has now in reality become an indigenous Church, with its Basuto members in an overwhelming majority on its governing council. To this in great measure is to be attributed the fact that Basutoland is so much freer of mushroom and fancifully-styled African sects than most other native areas of the sub-continent.

The main end of education policy in Basutoland has been to offer to as many as possible the opportunity of learning to read and write and make simple calculations. It is recognized that at the present time the greater number of pupils will attend school for three or four years only, and to achieve this end, education in the lower classes is practically all in the native language. It may be accepted that to the boys and girls of to-day in Basutoland, education is not a foreign or strange thing but a normal and essential part of their environment.

Of elementary vernacular schools there are 522, which are aided from public funds, and 260 which the missions maintain without aid. On a higher level there are 48 schools giving instruction up to Standard VI and introducing more English both into the curriculum and the teaching medium. Of these, four are purely Government schools, managed by local committees, and one further centre is to have a similar school.

Education of a higher standard and of vocational character is provided in one Government and ten mission institutions. The former is a Trade School for boys, while of the latter three train teachers to the standard of the Native Primary Lower Certificate of the Cape Provincial Education Department, three train girls as infant school teachers, three are schools of domestic science for girls, and one offers industrial training for boys. Ordinary education up to the level of the Junior Certificate can be obtained in two of these mission institutions, but beyond that it has been necessary in the past for students to proceed to colleges outside the Territory, more especially the South African Native College at Fort Hare, which has been assisted by the Basutoland Administration from the beginning and to

which three Government bursaries are available annually. Work is in progress however, for the building of a Government High School at Maseru which will take students up to matriculation, so that only for post-matriculation work will students find it necessary to leave the Territory.

In 1937 the total enrolment in all schools in the Territory was:—Government schools 491, Government-aided mission schools 64,180, unaided mission schools 12,472, training institutions and craft schools 473.

The establishment of the Education Department consists at present of a Director, two European Inspectors, and five Native Supervisors. Administrative expenses are met from general revenue, while the grants-in-aid to missions, the cost of the purely Government schools, and certain other charges, are taken from the Basutoland Education Fund. This fund receives a quarter of the ordinary native tax payments together with a special education levy of 3s. per taxpayer. It is estimated that £57,750 will be spent from this fund in 1937-8.

Education is free in all the elementary and intermediate schools, and attendance is not compulsory. There are the familiar difficulties of herding for the boys and home duties for the girls to make attendance irregular, but on the whole the eagerness to secure education is very remarkable. There is discernible in Basutoland a growing desire for education of a higher grade. But the internal circumstances of the country are not such as to provide many openings for the more highly educated Basuto, except in the service of the Government.

Most of what is being done on the side of vocational education has to do with European rather than indigenous crafts, e.g., carpentry, saddlery, laundry, cooking, etc. In regard to the domestic crafts of the girls, a steady raising of the standard of homes and home-crafts is noticeable. Progress is evident and every year a few more tradesmen such as carpenters, blacksmiths, and cobblers are to be found doing reasonably well at their trades. Here as in other spheres it is energy that counts.

As regards indigenous crafts, the range is not very great, perhaps in the main through lack of the necessary materials such as wood, osiers, etc. An investigation conducted early in 1935 on behalf of the Government by Mr. H. V. Meyerowitz has revealed how important in the life of the countryside is the pottery of the women, the grass and other weaving of both men and women, and how skilful in the clay modelling of animals, etc., are some of the children. These crafts are receiving attention in the handwork of some of the schools, and the possibilities of development are being considered.

Social welfare activities are mainly in the hands of the churches, and much good work is being done, while some valuable community service is rendered by the students in the institutions under the aegis of the Students' Christian Movement.

Useful training in homemaking, needlework, etc., for girls who have ceased to attend the ordinary classes is a feature in many of the Roman Catholic day schools.

Recreative activities are noticeably on the increase, chiefly in the form of organized school games, and inter-school competitions in games, athletics, drill and singing are frequent and popular.

The Wayfarer-Guide and Pathfinder-Boy Scout movements are developing in an encouraging fashion and cannot fail to exert a profound and beneficial influence on the life of the people.

European Education.—There are six small schools in the Territory, managed by local committees, charging modest fees, and aided by the Government. These provide elementary education for the children of Europeans. For education beyond Standard VI children are sent to schools in the Union of South Africa, and two bursaries are awarded annually on the result of a special examination. Of these, one is the "Fraser" scholarship of £50 per annum for two years, given by a prominent trading concern of that name, while the other, of £25 per annum for a similar period, is the "Queen Victoria Diamond Jubilee Scholarship."

XI.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Railways.

The Territory is linked with the railway system of the Union of South Africa by a short branch line from Maseru to Marseilles on the Bloemfontein-Natal main line. One mile of this line is in Basutoland. The South African railway runs near the boundaries of the Territory and goods are transported by road to the nearest railway station across the border.

During the past year the Road Motor Transport Department of the South African Railways have continued their regular services between Fouriesburg and Butha Buthe, Zastron and Quthing, Zastron and Mohale's Hoek.

Roads.

The greater part of Basutoland is very mountainous, and in this area all transport is effected by the use of pack animals.

On the western side of Basutoland there is a strip of agricultural country from north to south in which a fairly good road system has been developed. The main roads traverse the whole of this area, with branches leading west to the principal points of exit. In nearly all cases the roads are gravelled and carry motor and ox-waggon traffic in all weathers. There are, however, a number of unbridged rivers and streams which, during flood periods, may delay travellers for some hours.

From the main roads a number of feeder roads lead towards the interior. By-roads to trading centres and missions connect

with these feeder roads, penetrating still further into the interior. Although several roads now cross the first range of mountains, none has yet reached the second range. Feeder roads are maintained by the Government and during the year under review a certain amount of gravelling has been carried out, particular attention being paid to drainage improvements.

The by-roads are in some instances unsuitable for any type of traffic except ox-waggons. They are maintained by traders and others to whose stations they lead, and annual Government grants are made towards their upkeep.

On the eastern side of Basutoland, in the Qacha's Nek district, a short road system, similar to that described above, exists, and the standard reached is much the same as that obtaining on the western side of the Territory.

During the year causeways have been built over the Beryl Spruit and a spruit at Lifi's Nek, while a reinforced concrete low-level bridge has been built over the Phororo's Spruit. A second low-level bridge south of Mafeteng is under construction.

The task of reclaiming dongas alongside and parallel to the roads has been continued, and a number of concrete pipe culverts have been installed. These are necessary to deal with flood water held back by the contour furrows which are a feature of the anti-soil erosion work now in progress.

Government took over as a feeder road the by-road from White Hill to Sekake's (Qacha's Nek) during the year, and considerable improvements in gravelling and drainage have been effected.

The funds allocated are tabulated below:—

	Construction Work.	*Maintenance.*
	£	£
1936	2,400	12,350
1937	3,450	12,400

The following is a classification of the roads in the Territory:—

Gravel.—320 miles main road and 72 miles feeder road.

Earth.—40 miles main road and 70 miles feeder road.

In addition there are approximately 280 miles of by-road which are chiefly earth roads.

Bridle Paths.

A report on the bridle-paths in the Territory was presented during the year. This report recommended that approximately 1,680 miles of paths should be scheduled as main paths and that an estimated expenditure of £15,500 over a period of 3½ years should be granted to build them up to a reasonable standard.

A feature of the scheme is the provision of a number of native shelters in isolated places in which travellers can take refuge in storms and blizzards.

The recommendations of the report were approved towards the end of the year and immediate steps have been taken to proceed with the work.

As in the past two years, grants have been made to all District Officers to enable the worst sections of the existing bridle-paths to be repaired. The expenditure on this work for the year 1936 was £940 and the estimated expenditure for 1937 is £1,000.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

In addition to the road and bridle-path work mentioned in Chapter XI, the following programme of construction work has been carried on during the year.

The accommodation for patients at the Qacha's Nek Hospital has been doubled, a new operating theatre provided, and bath-rooms, isolation wards and a laundry constructed.

In Mokhotlong and Qacha's Nek additional native staff quarters have been built.

In Butha Buthe new quarters for the Postmaster and new offices for the Police are being completed.

Dispensary shelters and accommodation for witnesses are under construction in Leribe and will be completed before the end of March, 1938.

Additions have been made to the Lerotholi Technical School at Maseru, and a water-borne sewerage system is being provided for Maseru Hospital. The latter work will be completed early in 1938.

The construction of a small Maternity Hospital, run in conjunction with the main hospital at Maseru, was well advanced by December, 1937. Other smaller additions to Maseru Hospital are in progress.

At Mafeteng extensive additions were made to the hospital which can now accommodate twice the number of patients for which provision was available before.

The Government Intermediate School at Leribe was completed early in the year, and a commencement has been made with the building of an Intermediate School at Mohale's Hoek. Additional class-rooms for Maseru Intermediate School were started during the year.

An additional water-supply reservoir is in course of construction at Leribe, while at Quthing a water-pumping scheme has been put in commission.

Maintenance work on Government buildings has been carried out as usual.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

The laws in force in Basutoland include those of the Cape of Good Hope up to the 18th March, 1884, except where repealed or altered by proclamation of the High Commissioner, who is empowered to make by proclamation such laws as may be necessary for the peace, order and good government of the territory.

The Basutoland Courts of Law consist of:—

(a) *The Resident Commissioner's Court,* which constitutes the Supreme Court of Basutoland, and from which an appeal lies to the Privy Council. Under Proclamation No. 10 of 1928 as amended, the constitution of the Resident Commissioner's Court was altered and provision made for the appointment of a Judicial Commissioner. The Court is now constituted by the Resident Commissioner, or, when deputed by him thereto, the Deputy Resident Commissioner or the Judicial Commissioner sitting alone or together; and there may be associated with the Court not more than two officers of the Administration appointed by the Resident Commissioner for the purpose by notice in the Gazette. The Resident Commissioner when present and, in his absence, the Judicial Commissioner, is President of the Court, and the judgment of the Court is the judgment pronounced or approved by the President.

The power conferred on the Resident Commissioner to review and correct the proceedings of Courts or officers may be exercised also by the Judicial Commissioner, and any decision recorded or action taken by the Judicial Commissioner in the course of such review or correction is of the same force and effect as if it had been recorded or taken by the Resident Commissioner.

(b) *Courts of District Commissioners,* who are empowered to impose sentences not exceeding two years imprisonment with hard labour or fines not exceeding £50, with jurisdiction in civil cases up to £500. These Courts have no jurisdiction to try, as Courts of first instance, any person charged with treason, murder, attempt to murder, culpable homicide, rape, attempt to commit rape, or sedition.

(c) *Courts of Assistant District Commissioners,* with jurisdiction varying from sentences not exceeding six months and/or a fine of £10, to sentences not exceeding one year and/or a fine of £25, with civil jurisdiction in certain cases up to £250.

(d) *Chiefs' Courts.*—Under Proclamation No. 2B of 1884, the Paramount Chief and other Native Chiefs of Basutoland were authorised to continue to exercise jurisdiction according to native law and custom in civil and criminal cases within such limits as may be defined by any rules established by the authority of the Resident Commissioner, subject to a proviso that no suit, action or proceeding whatsoever to which any European shall be party, either as plaintiff or complainant, or as defendant, shall be adjudicated upon by any such Chief, save by the consent of all parties concerned. An appeal lies from a decision of any Chief to the Court of the Paramount Chief and from that Court to the Court of the District Commissioner of the District within which the action arose.

The following table shows the number of convictions for various crimes and offences during the last five years:—

Nature of Crime.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1937.*
In Magisterial Courts—					
Offences against the person...	95	147	137	171	406
Offences against property ...	558	594	338	366	380
Offences against liquor laws	6	12	19	20	33
Other crimes	1,778	1,327	1,356	2,047	1,276
In Resident Commissioner's Court—					
Murder	6	11	2	12	10
Culpable homicide	68	145*	124*	67*	7
Attempted murder	4	3	3	3	1
Rape	5	1	7	3	3
Other offences against the person	6	7	3	15	—
Offences against property with violence to the person	94	3	—	10	—
Other offences against property	45	62	32	34	13
Other crimes	3	2	1	1	—

Police.

Administration and establishment.—As a result of recommendations contained in the Report of the Pim Commission, reorganization of the Police and Prisons Service was inaugurated during the year. Under the previous system the line of demarcation between Police and Administration was but vaguely defined—a relic of the days when police and administrative work was performed by the same officer. To quote the report in question: " . . . the existing system of a combined Administrative and Police Service should be discontinued, and . . . the Police Service should be reorganized as a completely self-contained department . . . . "

Under the reorganization effected, Police administration has been divorced from the Administrative Service, and a separate department, including the control of Prisons, has been formed. The administration of this new department has been placed in the hands of a Commissioner of Police and Prisons.

The following summary sets forth the essential changes resulting from the reorganization:

1. The territory has been divided into four Police Divisions, each embracing two or more Administrative Districts, as under.

Division No.	*Division Headquarters.*	*Comprising.* *District.*	*Sub-district.*
1.	Leribe	Leribe	Butha Buthe
2.	Maseru	Maseru	
		Teyateyaneng	
3.	Mohale's Hoek	Mafeteng	
		Mohale's Hoek	
		Quthing	
4.	Qacha's Nek ...	Qacha's Nek	Mokhotlong

* Includes cases of public violence resulting in culpable homicide.

2. Each Police Division is in charge of a Superintendent of Police stationed at Divisional headquarters and responsible to the Commissioner of Police and Prisons for all police and prison work in the Division.

3. An Assistant Superintendent is stationed at each of the stations contained within a Police Division with the exception of Divisional headquarters. He is responsible to the Superintendent for all the police and prison work of his sub-division.

4. The reorganization has left the Native establishment practically unchanged, and, as formerly, all non-commissioned ranks are recruited from among the natives of the territory.

The following table shows the establishment and the actual strength of the Force as on the 31st December, 1937:—

Europeans.	*Establishment.*	*Strength.*
Commissioner	1	1
Superintendents	4	5*
Assistant Superintendents ...	8	7
	13	13
Native Ranks.		
Sergeant-Major	1	1
Sergeants	14	14
Corporals	15	15
Privates	260	258
	290	288

Depot.—The Police Training Depot was under the supervision of the Superintendent of Police, Maseru Division, during the greater part of the year under review, the detail work being carried out by the Native Sergeant-Major and a Native Drill Instructor.

Thirty new recruits underwent the Depot training course, and eight privates were sent in from the Divisions for refresher courses.

Fingerprint Bureau.—During the year, 1,356 " slips " were received for examination—an increase of 84 in last year's figures. Six hundred and four of these were in connection with deportations from the Union of South Africa.

Co-operation is maintained with the South African Police, and the Bureau is in constant touch with the Finger Print Office in Pretoria.

* One Superintendent is supernumerary.

Health of the Police.—The health of the Police during the year has been good. The death of one private is recorded with regret.

Conduct.—The level of conduct has been satisfactory throughout the year, there having been two cases only of discharge for misconduct.

Work of the Police.—During the year, 10,698 patrols were sent out, involving 12,802 men. The mileage covered by the patrols was 231,454, while mileage performed by the men was 282,591. This is an increase both in the number of patrols sent out and in the mileage covered as compared with last year. The increase may be attributed to the introduction of a more comprehensive system of mountain stock theft patrols.

Medals and Commendations.—Two King's Coronation medals were awarded, and long service and good conduct medals to one corporal and one private.

Prisons.

Administration.—Concurrent with the changes involving the Police administration, similar changes have been introduced in connection with Prison administration. The control of the prison system is now in the hands of the Commissioner of Police and Prisons, acting through the Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents in each Division or sub-Division. Each prison itself is in charge of a gaoler, subordinate to the local Police officer. In most cases the gaolers are native officials. The prisons at Maseru and Leribe, however, are in charge of European gaolers. The subjoined table shows the strength of the prison staff as on the 31st December, 1937:—

Gaol.	*European Gaolers.*	*Native Staff.*				*Total*
		Grade 2.	*Grade 3.*	*Grade 4.*	*Temporary.*	
Leribe	1	—	1	8	2	12
Butha Buthe ...	—	1	—	3	1	5
Maseru	2	—	1	12	5	20
Teyateyaneng ...	—	1	—	3	1	5
Mafeteng ...	—	—	1	3	2	6
Mohale's Hoek...	—	—	1	4	1	6
Quthing ...	—	—	1	2	1	4
Qacha's Nek ...	—	—	1	3	1	5
Mokhotlong ...	—	—	1	2	1	4
Total ...	3	2	7	40	15	67

Buildings.—All gaol buildings are of stone with iron roofs and cement floors; the inmates are supplied with bed-boards on which to sleep. The majority of cells are built to contain on

the average eight to ten prisoners, but there are usually one or two smaller ones for violent or dangerous inmates, or for occasional European convicts. Attached to each prison is an exercise yard and cement baths with water laid on. The cook-house is in the yard and a daily scale of ration as laid down by statute is provided. As no special accommodation exists in the district gaols for female or European prisoners, they are invariably transferred to Maseru.

Health.—The daily average of prisoners on the sick list during 1937 was 6·36, a standard of health which can be regarded as good. The average for the previous year was ten. There were six deaths recorded during the year.

All prisoners are medically examined on admission, and regular visits of inspection are made to the gaols by the Medical Officer of the station. Prisoners reporting sick are taken to the Government dispensary for examination, and if necessary are admitted to hospital where they receive the same treatment as other patients.

Discipline.—During the year, the general level of conduct was satisfactory. In a few cases only was it found necessary to transfer offenders to Maseru or to gaols in the Union of South Africa.

Labour.—The policy commenced in 1931 of utilizing convicts to a greater extent on road construction and maintenance in the vicinity of the various Government stations has been maintained. Where possible, convicts are trained to become useful members of society on release, by instruction in such trades as masonry, carpentry, building and other kinds of manual labour.

Sentences.—The majority of offenders are given the option of paying a fine in lieu of imprisonment with hard labour. Provision was made by Proclamation No. 55 of 1921 for the punishment of offenders in certain cases, by which the Court may in its discretion—

(*a*) postpone for a period not exceeding six months the passing of sentence, and release the offender on one or more conditions; or

(*b*) pass sentence but order the operation of the sentence to be suspended for a period not exceeding three years on such conditions as the Court may specify in the order; or

(*c*) pass sentence of a fine or, in default of payment, imprisonment, but suspend the issue of a warrant committing the offender to a gaol in default of payment until the expiry of such a period not exceeding twelve months as the Court may fix for payment, in instalments or otherwise, of the amount of the fine or until default has been made.

Good conduct remission up to one-fourth of the sentence is allowed on all sentences of imprisonment for six months or more.

Statistics.—During 1937, 2,650 persons were admitted to prison in the territory, of which 1,672 were committed to penal imprisonment. The corresponding figures for 1936 were 3,364 and 2,341 respectively. The daily average of adults confined was 432·8 as compared with 550·4 for the previous year.

All juvenile prisoners are transferred to Leribe where they are kept segregated from adult prisoners so far as possible. The daily average number of juveniles in prison during the year was 14·3.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following is the legislation for the year 1937 which has been proclaimed in the *Gazette*:—

(1) No. 8.—Basutoland Credit Restriction Proclamation, 1937.
(2) No. 11.—Basutoland Further Appropriation (1935–6) Proclamation, 1937.
(3) No. 13.—Providing for the titles of Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of Police to be borne by Police Officers in Basutoland.
(4) No. 22.—Basutoland Merchandise Marks Proclamation, 1937.
(5) No. 25.—Public Holidays (Basutoland) Amendment Proclamation.
(6) No. 29.—Basutoland Appropriation (1937–8) Proclamation.
(7) No. 31.—Basutoland Leprosy (Amendment) Proclamation, 1937.
(8) No. 32.—Basutoland Counterfeit Currency (Convention) Proclamation, 1937.
(9) No. 36.—Amending Basutoland Motor Vehicle Proclamation.
(10) No. 40.—Customs Tariff and Excise Amendment Proclamation, 1937.
(11) No. 45.—Basutoland Medical, Dental and Pharmacy (Further Amendment) Proclamation, 1937.
(12) No. 46.—Basutoland Trading (Further Amendment) Proclamation, 1937.
(13) No. 47.—Aliens Proclamation (Basutoland), 1937.
(14) No. 51.—Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1937.
(15) No. 58.—Basutoland Trading Further Amendment (No. 2) Proclamation, 1937.
(16) No. 62.—Basutoland Police (Amendment) Proclamation, 1937.
(17) No. 63.—Basutoland Prisons (Further Amendment) Proclamation, 1937.
(18) No. 71.—Basutoland Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Proclamation, 1937.
(19) No. 74.—Basutoland Sheep and Goats Importation Restriction (Amendment) Proclamation, 1937.

XV.—BANKING, CURRENCY AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks within the Territory; but the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, has a branch office at Maseru.

The currency is provided for under Proclamation No. 2 of 1933 and is the same as in the Union of South Africa.

The weights and measures in common use in the Territory are the British Imperial.

XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure for the past five financial years:—

REVENUE.

Head.	*1932–3.*	*1933–4.*	*1934–5.*	*1935–6.*	*1936–7.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Native Tax	121,795	90,017	129,312	140,910	153,238
Customs and Excise ...	86,161	90,040	104,442	111,033	121,604
Posts and Telegraphs ...	9,172	12,906	11,437	14,187	15,123
Licences	7,855	8,466	8,615	9,181	9,634
Fees of Court or Office ...	810	773	361	346	401
Judicial Fines	783	424	739	431	815
Income Tax	4,040	4,115	5,608	4,036	5,307
Poll Tax	—	1,265	1,345	1,334	1,346
Fees for Services Rendered	1,020	1,023	1,017	1,270	1,216
Interest	2,473	1,963	1,408	1,303	1,680
Wool Export Duty ...	678	8,107	6,786	7,375	8,078
Miscellaneous	22,094	12,155	12,422	11,294	14,113
Education Levy	13,853	10,340	14,766	16,241	17,777
Civil Servants Salary Deductions.	4,676	4,550	2,689	2,148	—
Colonial Development Fund	—	—	1,543	207	18,688
Totals	£275,410	£246,144	£302,490	£321,896	£369,000

EXPENDITURE.

Head.	*1932–3.*	*1933–4.*	*1934–5.*	*1935–6.*	*1936–7.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner ...	13,280	13,163	13,018	13,600	13,933
District Administration ...	15,596	16,157	16,874	17,325	18,453
Police	33,908	33,386	34,188	33,603	32,801
Administration of Justice	10,683	13,923	13,674	13,246	13,691
Posts and Telegraphs ...	14,065	10,949	10,599	11,990	12,511
Public Works Department	5,166	5,308	5,476	5,621	5,374
Public Works Extraordinary.	39	493	986	1,597	4,958
Public Works Recurrent ...	17,949	20,645	25,493	28,338	21,483
Medical	24,507	25,712	26,605	29,311	29,614
Education	51,587	39,352	53,357	57,854	62,055
Lerotholi Technical School	5,195	5,515	6,503	6,205	5,948
Agriculture—					
Veterinary	12,799	12,598	12,944	12,294	18,331
Agricultural	7,184	7,351	8,664	9,495	7,089
Allowances to Chiefs ...	11,472	11,145	9,413	11,207	12,993
Basutoland Council ...	1,786	736	1,697	1,715	1,719
Leper Settlement	19,820	19,671	19,138	18,201	17,927
Pensions	11,760	14,562	13,962	16,862	15,349
Miscellaneous	6,243	40,910	15,399	6,419	6,114
Capital Expenditure ...	585	538	5,440	3,522	5,528
Colonial Development Fund	—	—	1,543	—	18,668*
Census	—	—	—	196	3,464
Financial and Economic Commission.	—	—	—	207	—
Totals	£263,624	£292,114	£294,973	£298,808	£328,003

* Includes expenditure on ecological survey, livestock improvement, wool-classing measures, and the Anti-soil Erosion Campaign.

Liabilities and Assets.

The surplus balance at the 31st March, 1937, amounted to £104,808. £35,000 of the surplus balance is on loan to the Swaziland Government at 3½ per cent. per annum. This loan is repayable by 1943.

The detailed statement of Liabilities and Assets at the 31st March, 1937, is as follows:—

Liabilities.	£	*Assets.*	£
Guardians' Fund Deposit Account	7,693	On deposit with the Crown Agents for the Colonies, London	89,000
Sub-Accountants' Suspense Account	5,134	Crown Agents, London, Current Account ...	1,080
Stores Imprest Account ...	13,486	Standard Bank of South Africa Ltd., Deposit Account	
Basutoland Wool and Mohair Fund	1,706	Standard Bank of South Africa Ltd., Current Account	3,721
Basutoland Education Fund	23,092	Balances in hands of Sub-Accountants	29,774
Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland Tax Account	1,150	Advances Recoverable ...	7,674
Deposits	5,091	South African Railways and Harbours	
South African Railways and Harbours	15	On loan to Swaziland Administration	35,000
Colonial Development Fund	9,702	Stores Suspense	5,629
Bloemfontein Board of Executors & Trust Co. ...	1		
Balance of Assets over Liabilities	104,808		
	171,878		171,878

The Wool and Mohair Fund was established under Proclamation No. 39 of 1931 with funds received from the Union Government under Notice No. 1493 dated the 15th August, 1930, in respect of wool and mohair exported from Basutoland together with amounts recovered from persons to whom livestock or other articles have been supplied from moneys provided by the fund. The proceeds of this fund are devoted to the promotion of the future production of wool and mohair. During 1936-7, 307 pedigree rams were purchased for distribution amongst the Basuto at £2 each.

Estimated Financial Position at the 31st March, 1938.—It is anticipated that there will be a surplus of revenue over expenditure for the financial year 1937-8 of £33,889, and that the available surplus balance will amount to £138,706 at that date.

Description of Main Heads of Taxation.

Native Tax.

The rate of tax is 25s. for every adult male native domiciled in Basutoland, and in addition 25s. for each wife after the first, but no native is liable for more than £3 15s. 0d. in any one year for himself and his wives.

The collection was £12,331 10s. 0d. more than in 1935-6, and was made up of £51,599 Arrear, £100,777 Current (1936-7), and £865 Advance (1937-8) Tax. The total collected during the year equals £153,241.

Customs and Excise.

An amount of £119,883 5s. 11d. was received from the Union Government under the Customs Agreement and represents ·88575 per cent. of the gross Customs revenue of the Union of South Africa for the twelve months ended the 31st March, 1937. Local collections on Union manufactured spirits and beer amount to £1,720 12s. 0d.

Licences.

There was no change in the rates paid for the various classes of licences during the year under review.

Income Tax.

The rates fixed for the tax-year ended the 30th June, 1936, were the same as those for the previous year and were:—

(1) Normal Tax:—

(*a*) In the case of companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, two shillings and sixpence.

(*b*) In the case of persons other than companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, one shilling and as many two-thousandths of a penny as there are pounds in that amount, subject to a maximum rate of two shillings in every pound.

(2) Super Tax:—

(*a*) When the amount subject to super tax does not exceed twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, one shilling and as many five-hundredths of a penny as there are pounds in that amount.

(*b*) When the amount subject to super tax exceeds twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, five shillings.

The following abatements were deducted from the taxable income of any person, other than a company, for the purpose of determining the taxable amount:—

Abatements:—

(*a*) Primary £400.

(*b*) Life insurance and similar allowances. A deduction not exceeding £50 is made in respect of premiums paid during the period of assessment on policies under which the taxpayer, his wife or minor children are insured against death, accident or sickness.

(*c*) A deduction not exceeding £10 is allowed for fees or subscriptions paid during the period of assessment to any friendly or benefit society.

(*d*) £100 for each unmarried child or step-child who was alive during any portion of the year of assessment and was or would have been under the age of 21 years on the last day of the year of assessment.

(*e*) A sum of £30 for each dependant of the taxpayer.

The total of the abatements and allowances is reduced.

(1) In the case of every such taxpayer (i) who during any portion of the period in respect of which the assessment is made was married; or (ii) who during the whole or any portion of the period in respect of which the assessment was made was divorced, but maintained during any portion of that period a child of his own or a step-child who was or would have been had he lived under the age of 21 years on the last day of the year of assessment in respect of which, or portion of which, the assessment is made, the reduction shall be by one pound for every completed ten pounds by which the taxable income of such person exceeds six hundred pounds or when the period assessed is less than twelve months, by which it exceeds so much of six hundred pounds as is proportionate to the period assessed: Provided that for the purpose of this paragraph any person who was a widower or widow during the whole or any portion of the period in respect of which the assessment is made shall be assessed as though he had been married throughout that period and any person who has been separated under a judicial order or written agreement throughout that period shall be assessed as though he had been divorced throughout that period.

(2) In the case of all other persons to whom paragraph (1) of this sub-section does not apply, the reduction shall be by one pound for every completed pound by which the taxable income of any such person exceeds three hundred pounds or, when the period assessed is less than twelve months by which it exceeds so much of three hundred pounds as is proportionate to the period assessed. In the case of persons other than companies the assessment is subject to a rebate of 20 per cent.

Companies.—In the case of companies an abatement of £300, which is subject to reductions in accordance with paragraph (2) above.

Super Tax is payable (other than by a public company) on a taxable income exceeding in the aggregate £2,500 in any year of assessment. The taxable income of any person determined for normal tax purposes is the amount upon which the super tax is assessed.

There is an abatement of £2,500 and this is diminished by £1 for every £1 by which the income, subject to super tax, exceeds £2,500.

Dividends accruing to non-residents are exempt from super tax provided such dividends are not paid or payable within the territory.

The sources from which taxable incomes were derived and the amount of tax paid for the tax years 1935-6 and 1936-7 are as follows:—

Source.	*1935–6.*	*1936–7.*
	£	£
General Traders	2,505	3,778
Civil Servants	669	717
Employed persons	96	90
Others	583	502
Non-residents	183	219
	4,036	5,306

The numbers of incomes assessed for current tax and the total amount of taxable incomes in the categories shown are:—

Numbers.	*Categories.*	*Total of Taxable Incomes.*
	£	£
13	500 and under	4,422
36	501–750	17,493
30	751–1,000	27,934
25	1,001–1,500	31,050
5	1,501–2,000	6,417
6	Over 2,000	35,235
115		£122,551

Stamp Duties and Fees on Documents payable by means of Stamps.

The duties and fees payable are specified in the Schedule to Proclamation No. 16 of 1907 as amended and are classified under the following heads:—

Arbitrations and Awards.
Bonds.
Courts of Law (District Commissioners' Courts).
Civil Cases (Resident Commissioner's Court).
Acts or Deeds of Donations.
Leases.
Master's Officer:
(*a*) Insolvency;
(*b*) Orphan Chamber.
Office Fees and Transfers and Miscellaneous.

Estate Duty is payable in terms of the Basutoland Death Duties Proclamation of 1935 at ½ per cent. upon the first £2,000 and up to 17 per cent. on £75,000 and over, and the rates of Succession Duty vary from 2 to 10 per cent.

Wool and Mohair Export Duty.

This duty remained at ¼d. per lb. for the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937. The increased collection as compared with the previous year's total is due to improvement in the health of sheep and goats and the improved pasture conditions.

Poll Tax.

The rate is fixed at £2 per annum payable half-yearly on the 1st January and the 1st July by all adult males domiciled in Basutoland who are not liable to pay Native Tax. In the case of failure to pay any one instalment of the tax within the period provided, a further sum of 2s. for each month or part of a month is payable.

Posts and Telegraphs.

The revenue amounted to £15,122 16s. 7d. during the financial year ended 31st March, 1937, and the expenditure to £12,511 2s. 3d.

During the financial year 1936-7 postal and money orders to the value of £25,418 were issued and £47,725 paid.

The Union Post Office Savings Bank system is in operation in Basutoland, and the following deposits and withdrawals at post offices in the Territory were made during the financial year 1936-7:—

	£
Deposits	30,174
Withdrawals	26,650

Basutoland has its own postage and revenue stamps. There are eleven denominations ranged in the following order, the first ten being postage and revenue stamps: ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., and, for revenue purposes only, £1. The respective colours are green, red, purple, blue, grey, light brown, orange, dark brown, blue purple, olive and black. One design only is used, which contains a vignette of His Majesty the King, placed above a scene depicting the Maluti mountains and the Orange River, while in the foreground is a representation of a crocodile—the emblem of the ruling house of Moshesh.

There was a special Coronation issue of the 1d., 2d. and 3d. denominations, in red, blue and purple respectively, containing a vignette of Their Majesties.

Johannesburg Agency.

The Report on the Financial and Economic Position of Basutoland dated January, 1935* (page 58), recommended the

* Cmd. 4907.

permanent establishment of this Agency, and all three High Commission Territories now participate and contribute towards the cost of maintenance.

Revenue is collected from the Basuto, Bechuana and Swazis working in the Transvaal industrial and mining areas, and the functions of the Agency are now extended to general welfare work. (A fuller report of the work of this Agency will be found under Chapter VIII, Labour.)

The total revenue collections for 1937 as compared with 1936 are:—

	1936.	1937.
	£	£
Basutoland	39,833	40,955
Bechuanaland Protectorate	4,974	4,483
Swaziland	4,996	9,475
	49,803	54,913

The collections on behalf of the Bechuanaland Protectorate Administration commenced in May, 1934, and in June, 1934, for Swaziland.

APPENDIX I.

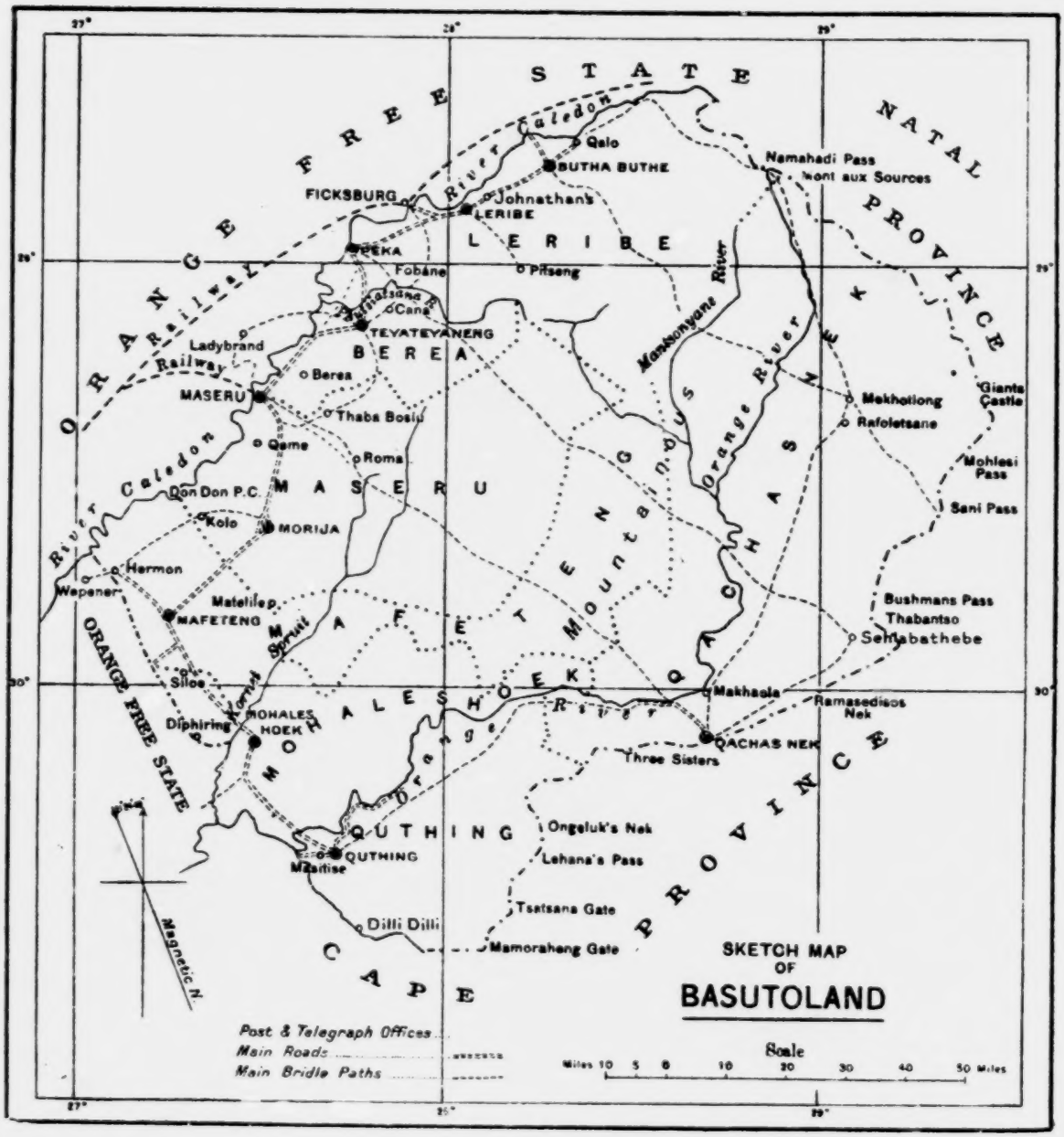
PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO BASUTOLAND.

"The Basutos" by Sir Godfrey Lagden, K.C.M.G., 2 vols.—Hutchinson.

"History of the Basuto" by D. F. Ellenberger and J. C. Macgregor.

"The Basuto of Basutoland" by E. A. T. Dutton—Jonathan Cape.

Report on the Financial and Economic Position of Basutoland (Cmd. 4907)—His Majesty's Stationery Office ... ...



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Report of the Commission appointed to enquire into and report on [Colonial No. 116] 9s. (9s. 6d.

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Report of the Commission appointed to enquire into and report on [Colonial No. 145] 7s (7s. 6d.)

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Report by Major G. St. J. Orde Browne, O.B.E. [Colonial No. 150] 2s. (2s. 3d.)

NYASALAND. FINANCIAL POSITION AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS

Report of Commission [Colonial No. 152] 10s. ( )

PITCAIRN ISLAND

Reports by Mr. J. S. Neill and Duncan Cook, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H. [Colonial No. 155] 1s. 3d. ( )

THE SYSTEM OF APPOINTMENT IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND THE COLONIAL SERVICES

Report of a Committee on [Cmd. 3554 (1930)] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS FOR THE COLONIAL SERVICE

Report of Committee on [Cmd. 4730 (1934)] 9d. (10d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS

Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

Lists are issued showing schedules of Offices in the following Colonial Services with the names and brief biographical records of the holders. Each list includes the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State relating to the Service concerned :—

Colonial Administrative Service List	[Colonial No. 147] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)
Colonial Agricultural Service List	[Colonial No. 143] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)
Colonial Forest Service List	[Colonial No. 122] 6d. (7d.)
Colonial Legal Service List	[Colonial No. 138] 9d. (10d.)
Colonial Medical Service List	[Colonial No. 159] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)
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Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

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(For Report for 1936 see No. 1804 (Price 1s. 6d.) and for Report for 1937 see No. 1854 (Price 1s. 0d.).)

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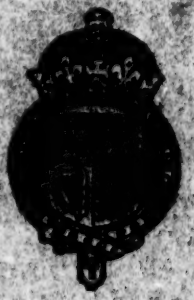

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from pollution the Government, as explained above, is undertaking the protection of village springs. The benefits to be expected need no comment.

Leper Settlement.

The Leper Settlement, opened in 1914 at Botsabelo, four miles from Maseru, is actually part of the Medical Department though it has a separate departmental vote. It is staffed by a Medical Superintendent, a Medical Officer, a Matron and two European staff nurses.

The number of leper patients on 31st December, 1938, was 704, as compared with 669 in 1937. The following comparative tables show fluctuations of patient population at the Settlement:—

Additions.	1937.	1938.
New cases admitted	104	110
Recurrent cases re-admitted	25	18
Deserters re-admitted	27	22
Total additions	156	150

Losses.	1937.	1938.
Discharge of arrested cases	71	36
Deaths	59	56
Desertions	41	23
Total losses	171	115

It will be seen in the above tables that the increase in population is owing to the smaller number of " losses " rather than to an increase in the number of new cases admitted.

The increase of new additions is no doubt due to (a) the appointment of two new Leprosy Inspectors who are doing excellent work, (b) increased interest and sense of responsibility created among the older Leprosy Inspectors and Chiefs as a result of regional leprosy surveys carried out in parts of the Qacha's Nek, Quthing and Mafeteng districts by the Medical Officer of the Leper Settlement.

The marked reduction in " losses " is accounted for by fewer discharges of arrested cases which is difficult to explain, but for some reason a considerable number of neural type cases instead of improving as in past years have taken on the cutaneous (nodular) type of disease which is less amenable to treatment and much more infectious. This has been specially noticeable among a large proportion of patients who within a few months of their admission in 1938 changed from the neural to the nodular type.

Public Health.

(a) Epidemic and general diseases.—There were no major epidemics during the year. Typhus Fever (11 cases) occurred in two outbreaks which were traced to infection from outside the Territory. Enteric Fever (164 cases) continues to occur seasonally after the onset of summer rains. The protection from pollution of village springs (see (c) above) will help materially to reduce the incidence. Tuberculosis (710 cases) shows an appreciable reduction from 1937 when there were 812 cases (423 pulmonary). Pellagra (490 cases) is seen in increasingly large numbers attending the dispensaries. Apart from these frank cases a much greater number during spring and early summer have a sub-pellagroid condition which does not appear to cause the individual much inconvenience except a feeling of being slightly below par; these people improve very quickly when summer crops are ready for consumption. The impression among all medical men in the Territory is that this disease is associated with the eating of milled white maize from which the husk has been removed. Venereal Diseases occurred in much the same number as in 1937: Syphilis primary, 481, secondary 4,834, tertiary 1,456, hereditary 1,266, gonorrhœa 1,788 cases.

(b) Food supplies.—The crops of maize, millet and wheat in 1938 were good and where these were insufficient for the needs of certain localities money earned by labourers on the goldmines enabled the people to augment the shortage.

The campaign initiated in 1935 for destroying field rodents (gerbilles) by means of poisoned wheat, which is prepared by Government and distributed free of charge in large quantities, continues. At a cost of less than £500 per annum many thousands of bags of grain are saved annually from the ravages of these rodents.

Increasingly large quantities of peas and beans are being grown and consumed by the Basuto, thus providing proteins which are generally very scarce in the diet of the people. The production of green vegetables by peasants throughout the Territory is expanding and is bound to have a beneficial result on the health of the people.

(c) Water supplies.—Most of the villages in the Territory have their own springs from which households obtain their domestic supplies of water. Wells and bore-holes are not used by the natives in Basutoland. A very large number of the springs are a mere trickle yielding not more than 100 gallons of water in the 24 hours, sometimes less, the water being tediously drawn from a small cup scooped out of the earth. The water is invariably infected from surface pollution and much of it is lost by seepage. To provide water adequate in quantity and free

increased number of in-patients was due to the larger number of beds available. For some years hospitals have been at saturation point, so the increased number of in-patients in 1938 is not due to more illness but simply that patients who previously had to be turned away could be treated in hospitals. The maternity block at the Maseru Hospital commenced to function on 1st April, 1938. At first patients were disinclined to make use of it as they thought that only difficult labours were suitable cases for a hospital; gradually this misapprehension is disappearing and increasing numbers now ask that beds be reserved for their confinements and to have the benefit of the ante-natal clinic which is part of the organization. In the nine months of the year (April to December, 1938) 169 patients were admitted; of this number 82 had deliveries; the remainder suffered from complications of pregnancy or untoward results of confinements that had taken place at the patients' homes. The attendances at the ante-natal clinic averaged 35 a week.

The following table gives a summary of the work carried out at the Government hospitals and dispensaries in each district:—

District.	In-patients treated in hospital.	Out-patients treated at dispensaries (including those receiving injections for syphilis).			
		First attendances.	Subsequent attendances.	Injections for syphilis.	Total.
Maseru	1,249	13,884	9,588	1,509	24,981
Leribe	758	12,064	6,282	700	19,046
Mafeteng ...	848	10,073	4,565	577	15,215
Mohale's Hoek	484	7,086	1,118	1,170	9,174
Quthing ...	574	5,120	3,245	232	8,597
Qacha's Nek ...	614	7,364	2,040	465	9,869
Teyateyaneng...	116	10,154	3,333	493	13,980
Mokhotlong ...	91	3,056	1,500	502	5,058
Butha Buthe ...	—	715	—	—	715
Totals ...	4,434	69,516	31,671	6,048	107,235

The following table indicates the work that was carried out by the three Medical Missions:—

Mission.	Hospital in-patients.	Dispensary attendances.
Roma Mission	480	8,975
Morija Mission	143	3,980
Paray Mission (Ntaote)	177	5,337
Totals	800	18,292

Four thousand, four hundred and thirty-four patients were treated in Government hospitals, as compared with 3,644 in 1937; and 2,593 operations (907 major) were performed. The following were the major developments accomplished during 1938:—

(a) Extension of Mafeteng hospital from 22 to 42 beds completed and functioning.

(b) Maternity block at Maseru hospital (16 beds) completed and functioning.

(c) Extension to Quthing hospital from 12 to 26 beds will be ready to function in March, 1939. This includes isolation rooms, new operating theatre and laundry.

(d) Rest-houses each consisting of five rooms to shelter out-patients coming from long distances completed at Leribe and Qacha's Nek and nearing completion at Mafeteng and Maseru.

(e) Protection of Native village water supplies. This important public health measure of protecting village springs from pollution and at the same time increasing the water available for household purposes by preventing seepage was continued in 1938. A total of 200 springs were dealt with in Butha Buthe, Leribe, Teyateyaneng, Maseru and Mafeteng districts. The average cost per spring is under 40s. Government provides the material and skilled labour and the village residents the unskilled labour. The results have been so gratifying that dozens of applications are now being received from chiefs and headmen of villages neighbouring those where the work has been completed. The Government intends to continue dealing with 200 to 250 springs per annum.

(f) Smallpox Vaccination Campaign. Early in 1938 a smallpox epidemic occurred on the Witwatersrand in the Transvaal whence large numbers of Basuto return after periods of work and as a very large proportion of the Basuto were unvaccinated Government began a vaccination campaign throughout the Territory. By the end of the year approximately 375,000 vaccinations had been carried out.

(g) The erection of manure " Baber " fly traps which was commenced in Maseru in 1937 is being continued. Ten additional " traps " were erected in 1938.

(h) The installation of water-borne sewage throughout the Maseru Hospital was completed in 1938.

Government Hospitals and Dispensaries.

Four thousand, four hundred and thirty-four patients were treated in Government hospitals, as compared with 3,644 in 1937; and 2,593 operations (907 major) were performed. The

approximately one bed per 1,000 of the Native population as compared with one bed per 4,000 of the population in 1935.

The following is a comparative statement of the density of the population (other than European) in 1911, 1921 and 1936:—

	1911.	1921.	1936.
Number of persons per square mile ...	34·41	42·44	47·99
Number of acres per head of population	18·60	15·08	13·33
Number of occupied huts per square mile.	10·86	16·99	20·42
Number of persons to each hut... ...	3·61	2·84	2·35

There is no compulsory registration of births or deaths, and figures for the number of marriages according to Native custom are not available. Marriages according to Christian rites numbered 1,289 during 1938, compared with 1,345 in 1937.

IV.—HEALTH.

The medical staff of the Territory consists of a Principal Medical Officer, nine Medical Officers, one Assistant Medical Officer, and one District Surgeon. A Medical Officer is stationed at each district headquarters and an Assistant Medical Officer or a District Surgeon at the two sub-district headquarters. There are also a Medical Superintendent and a Medical Officer at the Leper Settlement.

The untimely death of the African Assistant Medical Officer at Mokhotlong, Dr. Motebang, in June, 1938, has been a great loss to the Territory. As no other qualified African doctor could be secured to fill the vacancy a temporary European Medical Officer has been posted to carry on the work. It is hoped in due course to obtain the services of another African doctor for this station.

There are five Governmental general hospitals staffed by qualified European nurses with Native subordinate nursing staff and three smaller cottage hospitals entirely staffed by Native nurses of whom three are trained and certificated. When the Quthing hospital is completed in March, 1939, there will be accommodation for 240 Native and 13 European patients in Government hospitals. At each of the district and sub-district headquarters daily dispensary clinics are conducted by the Medical Officer in charge. The medicines prescribed by the Medical Officers are dispensed by trained African dispensers.

Hospital services in the Territory have been very appreciably augmented by the establishment of three Medical Missions, to which reference was made in the report for 1937. These hospitals are situated at Morija, Roma and Ntaote and beds are available for 26, 28 and 16 patients respectively.

As a result of efforts by Government and Missions the accommodation available for Native patients will have been increased from 140 beds in 1935 to 310 beds in April, 1939, which is

District.	Population Estimated.			Area in Square Miles.	Persons at Large Towns Census.		Persons at Small Towns Census.		Total Population.		Persons per Square Mile.
	Males.	Females.	Persons.		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
1. Berg	22,231	34,001	56,232	8,652	1,892	1,810	10,818	11,418	34,829	47,229	82,058
2. Wasserfall ...	14,691	20,492	34,883	6,180	2,191	2,189	8,441	12,141	25,313	34,822	60,135
3. Lemtpe	20,092	26,312	46,404	13,112	3,312	3,491	12,112	15,112	35,516	44,915	80,431
4. Wasserfall ...	40,410	50,824	91,234	6,240	4,224	4,224	15,200	18,200	59,634	73,248	132,882
5. Mokopotong, a Hoek	40,815	49,302	90,117	10,111	6,240	6,808	23,213	29,213	70,268	85,323	155,591
6. Qacha's Nek ...	15,058	21,081	36,139	7,258	2,219	2,219	10,112	14,112	27,589	37,412	65,001
7. Mokotlong ...	10,822	15,800	26,622	5,219	1,892	1,892	7,112	9,112	19,826	26,804	46,630
8. Qacha's Nek ...	22,204	32,113	54,317	6,240	2,219	2,219	9,112	12,112	33,535	46,444	79,979
9. Quthing	22,310	32,480	54,790	7,112	2,219	2,219	9,112	12,112	33,641	46,811	80,452
Total	178,652	252,613	431,265	70,224	28,108	28,211	105,813	137,213	312,573	414,826	727,399

The following table summarises the native (Basuto) population, and specimens stated to be present at Import centres:—

Total ...	1,234,567	123,456	1,358,023	135,802	1,493,825	149,382	1,643,207	164,321	1,807,528	180,753	1,988,281	198,828	2,187,109	218,711	2,405,820	240,582
Optima ...	123,456	12,346	135,802	13,580	149,382	14,938	164,321	16,432	180,753	18,075	198,828	19,883	218,711	21,871	240,582	24,058
Optima, a Jack	37,037	3,704	40,741	4,074	44,815	4,482	49,296	4,930	54,226	5,423	59,648	5,965	65,613	6,561	72,175	7,218
Workpeople	12,346	1,235	13,580	1,358	14,938	1,494	16,432	1,643	18,075	1,808	19,883	1,988	21,871	2,187	24,058	2,406
Workpeople, a Hook	37,037	3,704	40,741	4,074	44,815	4,482	49,296	4,930	54,226	5,423	59,648	5,965	65,613	6,561	72,175	7,218
Museum ...	44,444	4,444	48,889	4,889	53,778	5,378	59,156	5,916	65,072	6,507	71,579	7,158	78,737	7,874	86,610	8,661
Masterpiece ...	30,000	3,000	33,000	3,300	36,300	3,630	39,930	3,993	43,923	4,392	48,315	4,832	53,147	5,315	58,462	5,846
Tempo ...	40,000	4,000	44,000	4,400	48,400	4,840	53,240	5,324	58,564	5,856	64,420	6,442	70,862	7,086	77,948	7,795
Battle Battye	10,000	1,000	11,000	1,100	12,100	1,210	13,310	1,331	14,641	1,464	16,105	1,611	17,716	1,772	19,487	1,949
Beese ...	34,133	3,413	37,546	3,755	41,301	4,130	45,431	4,543	49,974	4,997	54,971	5,497	60,468	6,047	66,515	6,652

CONTINUED (OTHER MEN BANTU).*

Total ...	1,234,567	123,456	1,358,023	135,802	1,493,825	149,382	1,643,207	164,321	1,807,528	180,753	1,988,281	198,828	2,187,109	218,711	2,405,820	240,582
Optima ...	123,456	12,346	135,802	13,580	149,382	14,938	164,321	16,432	180,753	18,075	198,828	19,883	218,711	21,871	240,582	24,058
Optima, a Jack	37,037	3,704	40,741	4,074	44,815	4,482	49,296	4,930	54,226	5,423	59,648	5,965	65,613	6,561	72,175	7,218
Workpeople	12,346	1,235	13,580	1,358	14,938	1,494	16,432	1,643	18,075	1,808	19,883	1,988	21,871	2,187	24,058	2,406
Workpeople, a Hook	37,037	3,704	40,741	4,074	44,815	4,482	49,296	4,930	54,226	5,423	59,648	5,965	65,613	6,561	72,175	7,218
Museum ...	44,444	4,444	48,889	4,889	53,778	5,378	59,156	5,916	65,072	6,507	71,579	7,158	78,737	7,874	86,610	8,661
Masterpiece ...	30,000	3,000	33,000	3,300	36,300	3,630	39,930	3,993	43,923	4,392	48,315	4,832	53,147	5,315	58,462	5,846
Tempo ...	40,000	4,000	44,000	4,400	48,400	4,840	53,240	5,324	58,564	5,856	64,420	6,442	70,862	7,086	77,948	7,795
Battle Battye	10,000	1,000	11,000	1,100	12,100	1,210	13,310	1,331	14,641	1,464	16,105	1,611	17,716	1,772	19,487	1,949
Beese ...	34,133	3,413	37,546	3,755	41,301	4,130	45,431	4,543	49,974	4,997	54,971	5,497	60,468	6,047	66,515	6,652

* Asiatic included with Coloured.

Total ...	888	127	1,005	409,181	1,120	684	1,824	— 110	— 23	—100	63,220	1,314	11,113	55·05	— 13·40	— 5·10	— 10·24
EUROPEANS.																	
Gunguna ...	68	41	112	38,305	52	40	100	— 11	+ 5	— 6	6,160	9·83		9·83	— 10·18	+ 4·50	— 5·68
Ocora's Nek ...	42	21	63	30,388	42	30	83	+ 50	+ 52	+ 42	11,884	13·04		13·04	+ 41·05	+110·02	+ 51·42
Mokotolong ...	88	21	109	30,388	17	9	26	— 17	+ 8	— 9	8,984	2·92		2·92	— 10·33	+ 11·51	— 2·00
Masera ...	300	111	411	101,520	120	24	144	— 2	— 24	— 26	9,840	1·05		1·05	— 1·05	— 1·05	— 4·14
Matsekane ...	130	153	283	78,183	180	61	241	— 41	— 33	— 74	3,120	0·40		0·40	— 20·80	— 20·80	— 21·80
Teuape ...	142	110	252	69,615	124	81	205	— 40	— 10	— 50	3,120	0·45		0·45	— 28·11	— 13·20	— 31·22
Butha Buthe ...	78	24	102	25,230	80	31	111	— 55	— 10	— 38	3,120	1·23		1·23	— 38·51	— 30·03	— 38·19
Beta ...			132		20	38	64										
ALL RACES.																	
Total ...	1,130	20,100	21,230	5,307,750	10,331	2,521,361	2,831,711	1,130	4,139	5,269	6,240	0·84	55·05				
Gunguna ...	1,130	20,100	21,230	5,307,750	10,331	2,521,361	2,831,711	1,130	4,139	5,269	6,240	0·84	55·05				
Ocora's Nek ...	3,120	20,100	23,220	5,807,750	10,283	2,521,215	2,829,965	4,250	11,884	16,134	11,884	2·84	32·41				
Mokotolong ...	3,120	30,150	33,270	8,317,750	10,283	2,521,215	2,829,965	4,250	13,024	17,274	13,024	3·12	35·51				
Masera ...	4,420	22,618	27,038	6,759,500	14,330	3,582,500	4,341,830	5,300	8,234	13,534	8,234	1·97	22·45				
Matsekane ...	2,080	31,460	33,540	8,385,000	10,330	2,582,500	2,967,500	3,120	3,120	6,240	3,120	0·75	8·51				
Teuape ...	4,680	21,060	25,740	6,435,000	10,330	2,582,500	2,967,500	7,800	7,800	15,600	7,800	1·87	21·27				
Butha Buthe ...	4,160	31,200	35,360	8,840,000	14,432	3,608,000	4,148,000	6,240	10,400	16,640	10,400	2·49	28·36				
Beta ...	3,120	20,800	23,920	5,980,000	12,951	3,237,750	3,721,750	4,680	7,800	12,480	7,800	1·87	21·27				

District.	1931.			1930.			Increase or Decrease.								
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Percentage.					
							Numerical.			Males.	Females.	Persons.			

formation of the Joint Advisory Conference established to study openings for co-operation between the Union Government and the Administrations of the High Commission Territories in matters affecting the development of the Territories and to consider any matters of joint concern.

The details of execution of the various Government schemes for the improvement of the people's health, agriculture and education were discussed and recommendations were made to the Government. The Director of Agriculture and the Principal Medical Officer, as is customary, addressed the Council, outlining the work of their respective departments during the year, and answering questions put to them by the Council.

The Council then debated its own constitution and certain native laws and customs.

III.—POPULATION.

The following are comparative figures for the years 1921 and 1936, and indicate the increase and distribution of the population.

and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at under which the Act was repealed and certain fines were paid by the tribe.

Although outwardly peace was restored, there still remained several chiefs who would not submit, and it was eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This was effected by Order in Council of 2nd February, 1884, which was proclaimed and brought into force by Proclamation No. 75A of 18th March, 1884. This Proclamation defined the boundaries of the Territory and restored it to the direct control of the Queen through Her Majesty's High Commissioner for South Africa.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Territory is governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland, the latter possessing legislative authority, which is exercised by proclamation promulgated in the official Gazette. The Financial Secretary prepares the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure and the Annual Accounts. Until 1931 the Office of the High Commissioner was held by the Governor-General of the Union of South Africa, but with the close of the Earl of Athlone's period of office the two posts were separated.

For administrative purposes the country is divided into seven districts under District Commissioners: Maseru, Leribe (including the sub-district of Butha Buthe), Teyateyaneng, Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek, Quthing, and Qacha's Nek (with the sub-district of Mokhotlong). These districts are divided into chiefdoms and sub-chiefdoms presided over by the hereditary chiefs and sub-chiefs allied to the Moshesh family who are responsible to the Paramount Chief in all matters relating to native law and custom.

In 1903 there was established a Basutoland Council in place of the National Pitso which was previously held once every year. Its constitution and functions are defined by Proclamation No. 7 of 31st March, 1910. The Council consists of 100 members, including the Paramount Chief as Chief Councillor with the Resident Commissioner as President. The Resident Commissioner nominates five members and the remaining 94 are nominated by the Paramount Chief and confirmed in their appointments by the Resident Commissioner. The Council exists for the discussion of the domestic affairs of the Territory.

The 1938 Session of the Council took place in November. The Councillors asked many questions concerning the Joint Statement issued by General Hertzog and the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs regarding the transfer of the government of the High Commission Territories to the Union and the

The climate is dry and bracing, with extremes of heat and cold both seasonal and diurnal. High altitude, electric tension, and long periods of strong sunshine without clouds or rain necessitate for European residents periodic changes to the coast level where the air is more humid.

The temperature varies from a maximum of 93° F. to a minimum of 11° F. The rainfall is capricious, the average being approximately 30 inches per annum, but it fluctuates much above and below this figure. The rainfall in 1938 recorded at the different stations in the territory varied between 36 and 23 inches.

The Basuto as a nation did not come into prominence until 1818, when Moshesh, a minor chief of the Bakwena tribe in North Basutoland, gathered together the remnants of the various clans that had been scattered by the raids of the Zulu and Matabele.

The new nation went through many vicissitudes of fortune, first with the emigrant Boers of the Great Trek, and then with the British under General Cathcart in 1852. From 1856 until 1868 there was a series of wars with the Orange Free State burghers and, being hard pressed and having lost a large portion of his country (now known as "the Conquered Territory"), Moshesh sought the protection of the British Government. This was granted and carried into effect by Sir Philip Wodehouse, the Governor of the Cape, by a Proclamation dated the 12th March, 1868.

It is interesting that, although Moshesh asked for British protection, the Basuto were received as British subjects and not as protected subjects by the Proclamation of 1868, part of which reads:—

"Now therefore, I do hereby proclaim and declare that from and after publication hereof the said tribe of Basuto shall be taken to be British subjects, and the territory of the said tribe shall be taken to be British territory."

The country remained in a very unsettled condition until it was annexed to the Cape Colony by an Act of the Cape Legislature, No. 12 of 1871. The Act expressly declared that the territory was not to be subject to the general laws of the Colony, and gave the Governor power to legislate for it by proclamation and to extend to it by proclamation any Cape Act not otherwise in force therein.

The people never took kindly to the Cape Colonial rule, and after various disturbances the Government of the Cape, in 1880, extended to Basutoland the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878, which included a clause for the general disarmament of the Basuto. They refused to accept the terms

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BASUTOLAND FOR THE YEAR 1938

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

Basutoland is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, and on the south by the Cape Province. 11,716 square miles in area, Basutoland lies between 28° 35′ and 30° 40′ South latitude and between 27° and 29° 30′ East longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 feet to 11,000 feet above sea-level. The Maluti Mountains, which occupy most of the territory to the east, were in former years reserved for grazing purposes but, owing to the pressure in the lowlands where the bulk of the population is concentrated, this area has become comparatively thickly populated.

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To keep closer touch with discharged patients and to allow more frequent examinations of families and villages in which leprosy is known to have existed, the number of African Leprosy Inspectors has been increased from six to eight.

The Leper Settlement has been provided with a motor-van to facilitate the transport of lepers from remote districts and to convey discharged cases, a number of whom are mutilated, to points on main roads near their homes.

Regional surveys were made by the Medical Officer of the Settlement in parts of the Qacha's Nek and Quthing districts and in part of the Mafeteng district towards the end of 1937 and early in 1938. The former area, which has been recognized as the most heavily infected part of Basutoland, is in remote mountainous regions and the latter is in the plains. In the former out of 13,187 persons examined 42 showed signs of active leprosy, most of them very early cases of a mild type, and in the Mafeteng district out of 14,555 persons examined five were found to have the disease in a very early and mild form. The marked difference in the incidence of the areas surveyed is due to the difficulty experienced by inspectors in carrying out sufficiently frequent inspections in the highlands and the difficulty of transporting patients to the Settlement compared with the lowlands where travelling facilities are easy. These surveys show that, provided sufficiently close touch is maintained by the inspectors and patients can be promptly transported to the asylum, the policy of institutional segregation will gradually remove the foci of infection and the expectation is justified that eventually leprosy in Basutoland will be reduced to a negligible figure, if not eradicated.

The marked reduction in the number of deserters is most satisfactory. The patients are happy and contented and those who desert generally do so because of some important family matter which they wish to attend to personally. An important factor in maintaining the contentment of patients is that every effort is made to employ as many of them as can perform manual work on agricultural work or in the compounds and by instructing them to weave woollen articles. Each compound has a " loud speaker " for the relaying of wireless or gramophone programmes and every fortnight the patients are given a cinema show. There are schools for leper children in which they are taught to play games and occupy themselves in useful pursuits such as carpentry, knitting, weaving, etc. It is generally recognized in leper institutions that employment and relief of boredom are important adjuncts in the treatment of the disease.

V.—HOUSING.

There are no factories or industrial undertakings in Basutoland, and the problem of the proper accommodation of workers has not arisen.

The Basuto live in villages under tribal authority and their huts are, on the whole, healthy, if primitive. These huts are built of sods or stone, with a mud floor and thatched roof; and the average number of persons to each hut occupied was 2·35 in 1936 compared with 2·84 in 1921.

The small European population consists of civil servants, missionaries and traders, and is, as a rule, well housed in buildings of cut stone or brick.

VI.—NATURAL RESOURCES.

Development.

Extent of Cultivation.—It is estimated that approximately 10 per cent. of the total area of the Territory is under cultivation. The figures are:—

	Acres.
Total area of territory	7,498,240
Estimated area under cultivation	750,000

It does not follow that the whole of this cultivated acreage is under the plough in any one year; but in a good season it can be assumed that practically all the arable land available is ploughed and sown. There has been a tendency to plough up more land in the mountain districts for the production of wheat. Many lands which had been abandoned in the lowlands are now coming under cultivation again after being reclaimed by anti-soil erosion works.

In the lowland regions the area devoted to grazing is relatively small; the main pasture lands are in the mountains where whole valleys are utilized solely for this purpose. The following extract from the Ecological Survey Report* is interesting in this connection:—

> " . . . . little use of the mountains proper was made by the Basuto until towards the end of the last century when settlement, starting in the Orange River valley, began to make rapid strides. Then gradually, with the saturation of the lowland grazing, outposts were established in the mountains by the bigger stock owners."

Forestry.—With the exception of the seven wooded valleys which are under complete protection, the willow trees which

* Published 1938—obtainable from the Crown Agents for the Colonies, London.

grow along the banks of the rivers, and poplar trees in plantations and those grown as anti-soil erosion measures, the territory is practically devoid of trees. Steps have been and are being taken to increase considerably the number of trees in the territory.

For several years past, fruit trees have been issued to those natives who have laid out well-terraced gardens and who have followed the advice of the Government in vegetable growing. These issues have been much appreciated and the majority of the trees have been well tended and have made excellent growth. During 1938, 1,890 peach and apricot trees, raised in the seed multiplication plots, were issued.

Mineral Development.—No mineral development has so far taken place in the territory. A preliminary geological survey of the whole country is at present being carried out by an officer seconded from Tanganyika Territory.

Possibilities of Development.—In the lowland areas any further increase in cultivation, at any rate of an extensive nature, is impossible. Much greater use could, however, be made of the land already under cultivation by the adoption of more intensive methods and the application of scientific principles. To attain this is one of the main objects of the Government's agricultural policy.

In the mountains it is possible to extend the arable areas, particularly by the cultivation of more wheat, peas, beans and vegetables.

Soil Conservation.—Soil conversation was started on an extensive scale early in 1937 as a result of a loan of £160,233 from the Colonial Development Fund for the purpose. All phases of the work were greatly intensified during the year. Terrace construction was undertaken in all lowland districts and additional power plant was procured.

The following table shows the progress that has been made to date:—

Measure.	*Previous to 1938.*	*During 1938.*	*Total to end of 1938.*
Area reclaimed, in acres ...	8,316	19,240	27,556
Length of terrace constructed, in yards ...	858,831	2,078,746	2,937,577*
Number of dams constructed	29	20	49
Number of trees planted...	43,296	128,662	171,958
Area fenced, in acres ...	267½	386	653½

* *Note.*—This does not include the many thousands of yards of partially finished work cut by plant but still at the end of 1938 requiring manual work to complete it.

In cultivated lands over 626,000 yards of terrace bank, representing an area of approximately 500 acres, were sown with lucerne during the year, and 60,000 yards of bank were planted with the local thatching grass (*Hyparrhenia*). In addition to affording the necessary vegetative cover to terraces, the lucerne is of value not only as feed for stock but also as spinach for the people, and thatching grass is greatly in demand for building purposes. Cynodon dactylon, kikuyu and numerous other varieties of grasses palatable to stock were sown or planted on terraces in pasture areas.

Many more dams were constructed this year owing to the importance of dams in soil conservation work, not only to slow up and retain surface run-off, but also to reduce trampling of pasture by providing numerous convenient watering places for stock.

The extensive planting of trees now being undertaken will apppreciably relieve the acute shortage of firewood in the territory and will result in manure being used as fertiliser instead of fuel. Peach and apricot trees are also being planted in order that the diet of the people may be supplemented by fresh and dried fruit.

The establishment of vegetative cover in dongas, improvement of pastures and increased crop yields clearly demonstrate the beneficial results of the soil conservation measures carried out.

Research and Experimental Work.

The Ecological Survey.—As a result of the Ecological Survey of Basutoland the following suggestions have received and are receiving attention:—

(*a*) Grazing experiments, on the lines laid down in the report, have been started at Maseru by the fencing of enclosures. A range of grazing experiments will also be started in the mountain districts during the coming season.

(*b*) An organized system of grazing for the entire Territory is under consideration.

After a survey of the main bridle-paths in the mountain area in 1937, much useful work has been carried out on the construction of these paths throughout the Territory. The paths have been well laid-out and constructed, and are a great help to the mountain native when transporting his produce to the lowlands for sale.

Maseru Experimental Station.—During 1938 the following experimental work was carried out at this station which has now been in existence since 1935:—

(*a*) The testing of strong, high-glutin content wheats for resistance to disease and general suitability for growth in Basutoland.

(*b*) The testing of varieties of maize and sorghum, primarily for early maturity and yield.

(*c*) The testing of a great variety of grasses, particularly stoloniferous varieties, for use in anti-soil erosion work.

(*d*) The production of fruit trees for use in the vegetable and horticulture schemes.

(*e*) The production of Robinia pseudacacia and other trees which coppice rapidly, for planting in badly eroded watershed and other areas to consolidate anti-soil erosion measures.

At the various Government stations smaller experimental or multiplication plots have been fenced in and large quantities of Robinia pseudacacia and fruit trees are being raised for distribution. Further tests of different varieties of cereals which have been grown at the Maseru Experimental Station and give promise of being a useful introduction to Basutoland agriculture are also being carried out in these plots before the cereals, etc., are issued to the native farmers.

Winter Cereal Experimental Work.—Weather conditions were again very unfavourable to the cultivation of wheat due to drought and a severe attack of the wheat louse (Toxoptera graminum). The majority of the dry land plots and all the latter plantings under irrigation were a complete failure.

Of the imported Canadian varieties " Reliance ", " Red Bobs ", " Ceres ", " Marquis " and " Reward " have again shown great promise, producing good yields which have every appearance of excellent quality. Of the local wheats, " Bird-proof " and " Lalkasawali " were the outstanding varieties. The successful Canadian wheats will now be tried out under field conditions.

Summer Cereal Experimental Work.—Although the spring rains were later than usual, the season thereafter was very favourable to the growth of summer cereals and results were good, particularly from the Sorghum trials. The maize results were adversely affected by the mealie stalk borer. A further six early maturing varieties of sorghum were introduced from Swaziland for trial. Of all the introductions " Swaziland Strain 2 " has given the most promising results.

Of the various varieties of maize so far tested Boesman and Mazena Bread Mealies have been found most suitable for late planting, and North American White Flint, Anveldt, Wisconsin and Synthetic have proved the most useful varieties for early planting.

Grass Experimental Work.—Research was considerably extended during the season. The more promising varieties such as Digitaria scalarum, Paspalum notatum, Poa inermis and Agrostis tenuis have been planted out to test their relative usefulness for grassing contour banks, etc., but it is still too early to draw conclusions about the relative value of the varieties being tested or whether any of these will give success similar to that already secured by the use of kikuyu and Cynodon dactylon.

Principal Crops.

The principal crops grown in the Territory are maize, wheat and sorghum, followed in order of importance by peas, beans, barley and vegetables.

In the mountains the most reliable crops are wheat, peas and barley, all sown in early spring; maize and sorghum flourish better in the comparatively warm lowlands, and only a relatively small proportion of these crops is produced in the highlands. Other lowland products are autumn-sown wheat and spring-sown beans, vegetables and fruit.

The approximate acreage of the principal crops sown during the present season and the yield secured are given in the following table. The figures for 1937 are also given for comparison.

Crop.	*Acreage sown.*	*Yield in bags of 200 lb.*	*Remarks.*
Maize	375,000	873,750	The yield and quality of the maize crop was bad compared with that of the previous year in the lowlands, due to an adverse season. Crops in the foothills were good.
Wheat	264,375	257,812	The wheat crop in the lowlands was a failure. Excellent crops were, however, harvested in the mountain and semi-mountain districts.
Sorghum	93,750	197,812	Owing to the late spring rains, planting was delayed and a lot of grain did not mature before the frosts.
Peas, beans, barley, and other crops.	46,875	109,218	The crop of beans was, on the whole, poor. Excellent crops of peas and barley were harvested in the mountain districts.
	1937.		
Maize	374,912	1,135,983	
Wheat	234,313	363,645	
Sorghum	93,728	297,117	
Peas, beans, barley, and other crops.	46,864	148,558	

Vegetable Production.—The development of vegetable production continues to make rapid progress. The Basuto are now realising that by using the denuded areas around their villages, which previously only produced weeds, they can produce a large amount of palatable and healthful food from comparatively waste land.

The necessity for the establishment of terraced vegetable gardens in order to improve the diet of the people and as a direct anti-erosion measure is being kept constantly before the people by means of propaganda.

At the end of last season there were 1,774 vegetable gardens which had been laid out and planted under the supervision of the Agricultural Department, and during 1938 this figure has been increased to 2,927, an increase of 1,153. The Basuto are also profiting by the ocular demonstration afforded by these gardens, and it is estimated that at the present time there are about 1,000 additional vegetable gardens. Many of these gardens are laid out on the same lines as those belonging to natives who have worked under the direct guidance of an Agricultural Demonstrator.

The past season was a successful one for vegetable production. Sales were organized at a number of centres so that the surplus vegetables could be disposed of. Good prices were obtained from other Natives and Europeans. It is certain that the constant advice of the Department to grow vegetables, chiefly for home consumption and not entirely for sale, is being carried into effect.

Pasture.—Undoubtedly, since the great drought of 1933, an extraordinary improvement in the pastures, especially in the mountains, has taken place. Previously large tracts of the best grazing had been rendered almost useless by the spread of Bitter Karroo Bush (Chrysocoma tenuifolio).

The general improvement has been caused by:—

(1) Under-stocking due to the great depletion of stock caused by the drought and subsequent sales and deaths due, among small stock, to internal parasites.

(2) The drought was followed by five years of exceptional summer rainfall which was responsible for an outstanding growth of grass.

(3) Judicious spring burning.

Through these causes the Bitter Karroo bush has been considerably reduced and much of the country which was formerly almost useless for grazing has now reverted to good Rooi grass (Themeda triandra) grazing. In order to prevent the Bitter Karroo bush from again spreading systems of grazing for the mountain districts are now being considered.

Organization.

Land Tenure.—With the exception of the Government Reserves and land provided for the various Missions, all land in Basutoland is held by the people under the communal system. In actual practice there is a difference in the application of the system to grazing land and to cultivated land. All grazing land, including the grazing on cultivated land after the crops are removed, is strictly communal. The arable or cultivated land, while remaining the property of the nation, is granted to family heads under the ancient and well known " three field " system. In Basutoland there is no recognized acreage laid down for the size of these fields, which are estimated to average two acres.

The Producer.—In Basutoland the family is the production group, the family being taken to include the father, wife and all unmarried children. However, such groups are not highly organized or rigidly defined, and many exceptions occur. But as a general rule the individual as such has no place in the economy. The most striking exceptions are those cases—recently becoming more numerous—of native-owned stores, small craftsmanship enterprises and transport concerns.

Associations.—At the present time there are in the territory 101 farmers' associations with a membership of 2,657—an increase of 42 since 1937. They are not co-operative societies in the true sense as there is usually no joint financial liability. The main objects for which the associations were founded are to stimulate interest in good agricultural methods, to introduce better quality seed and stock and to organize co-operative buying and selling. Demonstrations and shows are found very useful means to these ends.

The majority of the associations are doing good work for the advancement of Basuto agriculture and the Government gives them every encouragement. They tender for Government supplies of fodder and maize and in 1938 the Peka Association obtained the local contract for the supply of maize. The associations themselves organize the agricultural shows and in 1938 held them at Leribe, Peka, Teyateyaneng and Masite. Grants-in-aid were given by the Government.

Demonstration Work.

At present there are 26 Native Agricultural Demonstrators employed in the territory. These men work under the supervision of the Agricultural Officers in the lowlands and the Assistant Agricultural and Livestock Officers in the mountains. The agricultural demonstration plots worked by these men were in most districts outstanding and a slow but sure improvement in the general agricultural methods practised by the Basuto, due to the lessons learned through demonstration work, can be seen.

The campaign for the laying out of properly terraced gardens and the growing of vegetables and fruit trees is in the hands of the Agricultural Demonstrators and is taking up an increasing amount of their time.

During the season the Agricultural Officers and Demonstrators gave 746 lectures which were attended by 25,904 people and were responsible for working the following number of field demonstration plots:—

Wheat...	149
Maize	252
Sorghum	17
Potatoes	4
Peas, beans, and other crops	16

Animal Husbandry.

The year has been a successful one. The livestock improvement schemes were continued and the work was facilitated by favourable weather conditions throughout the year. Although the rainfall was less than in 1937 it was more evenly spread over the year.

Small Stock.—The territory continues to enjoy freedom from scab. The incidence of " ked " is engaging the attention of the Government and sheep owners are being advised to dip their sheep. Dipping will be free at the existing dipping-tanks.

Monthly dosing for internal parasitism was continued throughout the year and 11,518,613 doses were administered for the eradication of vermes having the gastro-intestinal tract as their domicile. Many small stock were also dosed for " Liver Fluke " but happily the incidence of this disease is localised in certain upland marshy areas.

Stock-owners realize the advantages of these precautions and the results are excellent, particularly in the improved quality of the wool produced. Another beneficial result is the increase in the small stock population, particularly the sheep.

Owing to the increased number of dosing sites and the suspension of dosing operations for short periods before and after lambing, no reports of post-dosing mortality were recorded.

All stock are dosed by the owners themselves, on specified dates and at specified centres, under the supervision of officers of the Veterinary Department. The Government provides the dosing remedy and the sheep-farmer pays for it by purchasing coupons which are exchanged for the dosing remedy at the dosing centre.

Improvement of Wool, etc.—As a result of the compulsory dosing scheme, the elimination of rams carrying coarse, hairy wool, and the introduction of selected merino rams, the production of better wool is gradually being established. During 1938 21,535 undesirable rams and ram lambs were emasculated. The number of undesirable rams and ram lambs emasculated by officers of the department during the last four years totals 51,342. During 1938 the Government imported 485 selected merino rams from prominent breeders in the Union for re-sale to native flock owners. The total number of high-class rams imported by Government is 1,748.

During the year the Government agreed to the policy of free dipping of sheep, by voluntary request, for " ked ", and also all small stock destined for export. The Union Government has now waived the condition that all small stock exported via Qacha's Nek, Bushman's Nek, Ficksburg Bridge, Maseru and Van Rooyen's Gate must be dipped twice in an approved dip. The procedure now adopted at these ports of entry into the Union is a table inspection by an authorized officer.

Wool Classing.—The quality of the wool produced in Basutoland has improved considerably. In 1937 the Government began a wool-classing scheme and employed eight stationary and sixteen portable shearing outfits. During 1938 the portable shearing outfits were increased to twenty-three. The services of a temporary European wool-classing expert were secured to help with heavy work in the Qacha's Nek district: otherwise all the supervisory work was done by officers of the European field staff assisted by trained members of the Native Veterinary staff. It is hoped in time to train the Native farmer to class his own wool.

During the year 49,629 sheep were shorn under official supervision yielding 250,645 lb. of classed wool. The main object of the scheme is to establish definite lines, for the classed product, on the market and already considerable headway has been made. Unfortunately owing to a continuance of downward fluctuations in prices, due to the unsettled state of international affairs, the position has been made difficult for buyers and disappointing for producers. Nevertheless, in spite of this, most of the traders in the territory were willing to pay higher prices for classed wool offered to them than for unclassed. In response to trade requests, wool-classing demonstrations were held at Mafeteng, Maseru and Leribe. These demonstrations were well attended.

Census.—A small stock census was taken during the year. The following table shows comparative figures for the last eight years:—

Year.	Sheep.	Goats	Decrease.		Increase.	
			Sheep.	Goats.	Sheep.	Goats.
1931 ...	2,828,700	1,005,822				
1932 ...	1,949,322	723,447	879,478	282,375		
1933 ...	1,884,597	669,195	64,725	54,252		
1934 ...	1,469,199	530,921	415,398	138,274		
1935 ...	1,285,596	432,230	183,603	98,771		
1936 ...	1,264,344	410,620	21,252	21,610		
1937 ...	1,283,394	411,931			19,050	1,321
1938 ...	1,470,361	489,574			186,967	77,643

The above table shows that since the inauguration of the dosing scheme in 1936 the small stock population has increased considerably because compulsory monthly dosing for internal parasites has stemmed the mortality.

Figures for exports of wool and mohair are given in Chapter VII.

Cattle.

Anthrax.—As a result of the measures taken during the past few years the incidence of anthrax in the Territory has materially decreased. All cattle entering the Territory are inoculated at the ports of entry. During the year certain ports of entry were proclaimed and no cattle may enter the Territory except by way of these ports of entry. This measure has assisted officers of the department considerably and affords no small measure of protection from the introduction of anthrax from outside sources.

The following table shows comparative figures for the last five years:—

Year.	Census.	Decrease.	Increase.	Imports.	Exports.
1934 ...	400,000	N.B.—No census was taken in 1934. The figure given is estimated.			
1935 ...	352,331	47,669	—	2,866	6,503
1936 ...	414,872	—	62,541	6,995	9,913
1937 ...	418,921	—	4,049	11,746	8,477
1938 ...	434,990	—	16,069	12,073	5,544

Cattle Improvement.—The policy of emasculating, with the owners' consent, inferior bulls was pursued and as a result 2,531 animals were castrated by officers of the Agricultural Department. This figure does not include the numbers emasculated by the owners themselves of which no records are available. The introduction of "scrub" bulls is still prohibited.

The scheme for improving the cattle in the Territory by maintaining Government-owned bulls of good breed and quality in camps for serving the people's cows was continued. There are in the Territory eight bull camps housing 24 bulls and in the 1937-8 season 571 selected cows were placed in the camps and of them 438 were served.

In order to make it possible for people living at considerable distances from the bull camps to have their cows served by a Government bull, a scheme was introduced under which bulls were loaned to approved cattle breeders in various parts of the country. These breeders become caretakers of the bulls loaned to them and are allowed to charge a service fee of 1s. per cow to reimburse them for the cost of maintaining the bull. No caretaker or patron of the stud may own a scrub bull. By this means it is hoped to eliminate many undesirable bulls in the Territory. The loaning of the bulls should make the improvement in the people's cattle quicker and more widespread than it would have been had all the bulls been kept within the camps. During 1938, 44 bulls of the Afrikander and Sussex breeds were introduced and of these 41 were loaned to approved breeders.

Cattle Import Trade.—As will be seen from the import figures, cattle importations are increasing annually. During the year a standard was set for the type of cattle introduced by Basutoland traders, livestock dealers and Union farmers for bartering purposes. The cattle now introduced for this purpose are of uniform type and confined to certain breeds and grades thereof. The declaration of certain ports of entry through which cattle may only be introduced and of fixed days and hours for cattle inspection by officers of the Agricultural Department has enabled a very close check to be kept.

Cattle Export Trade.—There is practically no export from the Territory of cattle for slaughter but quite an extensive trade is carried on in trek oxen. Traders, livestock dealers and farmers introduce young cattle and acquire trek oxen by barter on the basis of two for one ox. The oxen thus acquired are exported to the Union where the Basuto trek ox is held in high esteem.

Equines.

Horses and Mules.—In pursuance of the scheme for the improvement of equines in Basutoland, 13 thoroughbred stallions and 13 Catalonian " Jacks " were introduced during the year. There were at one period of the year 35 stallions and 20 donkey " Jacks " doing service under the scheme. Of the stallions three were subsequently sold to the Native custodians.

The present distribution of the stallions and Jacks is given in the following table:—

District	*Stallions*	*Jacks*
Maseru (including 2 at Central Stud) ...	5	1
Mafeteng	7	7
Mohale's Hoek	8	7
Quthing	4	1
Qacha's Nek	3	2
Mokhotlong	2	2
Butha Buthe	1	—
Leribe	2	—
Totals	32	20

The object of the scheme is twofold: (*a*) To rehabilitate the once famous Basuto pony, and (*b*) to breed pack mules. It is estimated (final figures are not yet available) that over 600 mares were served by these stallions and " Jacks " during the spring and early summer. The service fee of 10s. is collected by custodians of loaned stallions and Jacks to reimburse them for the care and management of their charges. Everywhere, except at the central stud at Maseru, only native-owned mares are accepted for service. Concurrent with this improvement scheme is the emasculation, with the owners' consent, of undesirable stallions, and 2,120 were emasculated by officers of the Veterinary Division.

The mule population has shown a slight increase over the previous year. This essential industry is receiving the attention of the Government and, as a result, it is hoped that in years to come the mule population will materially increase.

Donkeys.—The donkey population is steadily increasing annually. Although the country carries 25,314 donkeys, traders and others have been unable to acquire donkeys in Basutoland for transport purposes. The great majority of donkeys are owned by Natives and in recent years their value for transport has been realised to such an extent that owners who are prepared to sell are asking prohibitive prices for them, forcing traders and others to buy in the Union.

The following are the census figures for Equines for 1935-6-7-8:—

	Horses.	*Mules.*	*Donkeys.*
1935	79,701	986	18,911
1936	84,650	1,275	22,361
1937	85,017	1,068	22,766
1938	87,788	1,076	25,314

VII.—COMMERCE.

The most important factor characterizing the external trade of Basutoland is the excess of imports over exports of goods. The monetary value of this adverse balance amounted in 1938

to nearly £350,000. The same figures for 1935, 1936 and 1937 are, respectively, £257,186, £409,932 and £392,107. This continued adverse balance is rendered possible by the existence of an export of labour to the mines and farms in the Union resulting in an inflow of cash to Basutoland.

Practically the whole of the retail trade is in the hands of Europeans, although during the past few years the number of native-owned stores has increased. Little bartering is carried on between the natives themselves.

The most important exports of the Territory are wool, wheat, mohair and cattle: in 1938 the values exported bore the following proportions to total exports:—

Wool	31 per cent.
Wheat	38 per cent.
Mohair	10 per cent.
Cattle	5 per cent.

During 1938 prices of wheat and cattle rose. Prices of wool and mohair fell considerably but tneir fall has been partially stayed by the classing scheme.

TABLE (1)

Value in £'s of total imports and total exports for the years 1920 *and* 1928 *and the years* 1934-8.

	Imports.	*Exports.*
1920	1,180,986	937,038
1928	921,573	1,013,392
1934	566,767	284,522
1935	588,331	331,145
1936	712,125	302,193
1937	760,736	368,629
1938	749,126	401,512

TABLE (2)

Values and quantities of principal imports for the years 1937-8.

	1937.		*1938.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£
Merchandise		683,578		678,260
Livestock—	*No.*		*No.*	
Horses, Mules, etc. ...	1,806	6,514	2,704	10,677
Cattle...	4,599	14,357	6,715	24,376
Sheep and Goats ...	629	554	2,303	1,239
Grain—	*Bags.*		*Bags.*	
Wheat and wheat meal	6,378	9,282	8,087	12,852
Maize and maize meal	55,515	37,049	33,017	18,988
Kaffir corn	10,663	8,651	2,222	1,820
Other produce		751		914
Totals ...		760,736		749,126

TABLE (3)

Values and quantities of principal domestic exports for the years 1937-8.

	1937.		1938.	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
Livestock—	*No.*	£	*No.*	£
Horses, Mules, etc.	102	575	109	730
Cattle	4,954	25,885	3,243	21,358
Sheep and Goats	—	—	563	340
Grain—	*Bags.*		*Bags.*	
Wheat and wheat meal ...	171,441	132,386	152,776	155,807
Maize and maize meal... ...	4,858	1,864	26,196	11,514
Kaffir corn	2,518	1,215	52,770	35,614
Barley	750	287	2,080	1,019
Beans and peas...	1,752	1,092	4,761	3,082
Oats			1,909	1,341
Wool and Mohair—	*lb.*		*lb.*	
Wool	4,662,779	142,899	6,461,852	125,241
Mohair	782,221	57,615	870,651	41,584
Hides and Skins—	*lb.*		*lb.*	
Hides	132,483	3,300	84,590	1,450
Skins	62,823	1,253	40,171	1,001
Miscellaneous		258		1,431
Totals		368,629		401,512

Note: A bag=200 lbs.

TABLE (4)

The following comparative table for 1937 and 1938 indicates the country of origin of motor vehicles registered in the Territory.

Country of Origin.	*New Registrations.*		*Total Registrations.*	
	1937.	*1938.*	*1937.*	*1938.*
Private Motor Vehicles and Taxis.				
Great Britain	9	15	27	30
Canada ... ... / United States of America	165	260	493	531
Germany	—	—	1	—
Italy	—	—	—	—
France	1	—	2	—
	175	275	523	561

TABLE (4)—*contd.*

Country of Origin.	*New Registrations.*		*Total Registrations.*	
	1937.	*1938.*	*1937.*	*1938.*
	Commercial Vehicles.			
Great Britain	2	5	12	12
Canada ... ... / United States of America	49	60	141	148
Germany	—	1	1	1
	51	66	154	161
	Motor Cycles.			
Great Britain	5	4	14	12
United States of America ...	—	—	2	3
Germany	—	1	—	1
	5	5	16	16

Observations.

Total imports and exports for the year 1928 have been included as the comparison between the figures for that year and those for 1938 is interesting. 1928 was the last year in which exports were greater than imports. However, in 1920 the total value of imports was £1,180,986 and exports amounted only to £937,038.

Merchandise.—From 1931 there was a continuous increase in the amount of merchandise imported until this year when the total was just less that that of 1937, though the figure for 1937 was still below the 1928 total. The figures for 1920, 1928, 1931, 1937 and 1938 are £1,091,000, £881,767, £389,237, £683,578 and £678,260 respectively.

Wool.—Wool is one of the two most important articles of export. From 1928 the amount dropped from 12,000,000 lb. to 4,500,000 lb. in 1937. But in 1938 it increased to 6,461,852 lb.

Maize, Sorghum and Wheat.—The two main foodstuffs of the Basuto are maize and sorghum in that order, then wheat and peas third and fourth. The climate and soil of the mountains are favourable to the growth of strong wheat, and for each bag of wheat the native can usually obtain about 1½ bags of maize in exchange from a trader. Some two-thirds of the total wheat crop is usually available for export. Most of the maize and

sorghum is consumed locally or stored if the crop has been good. Ordinarily more maize, sorghum and peas are imported than exported.

Cattle.—Trek oxen from Basutoland have a good market in the Union of South Africa.

Imports.—All the figures for imports given in the tables and elsewhere relate only to imports made by private individuals. In addition to these, account must be taken of imports made by Government. The estimate for this year places the figure at £56,000; this, however, must be regarded as only approximate.

Apart from foods, the chief articles bought by the natives are clothing and agricultural implements. The clothing comes largely from the Union of South Africa, the implements chiefly from Canada but some from Germany. Motor cars are being bought in increasing numbers by chiefs and native traders; the small European population also owns a considerable number.

Since all imports are made through the Union of South Africa, it is not possible to give figures detailing the country of origin of imports or destination of exports.

There is very little tourist traffic in Basutoland.

VIII.—LABOUR.

The following table shows the number of passes issued during the past four years to enable natives to leave the territory to take up or seek employment in the Union of South Africa.

	1935.	*1936.*	*1937.*	*1938.*
Mines—				
Gold	29,502	34,877	30,460	47,029
Coal	472	627	1,428	2,546
Diamonds	83	229	847	30
Manganese	—	305	265	—
Other Mines	—	—	130	628
Total Mines ...	30,057	36,038	33,130	50,233
Agricultural	5,584	6,964	3,782	3,872
Miscellaneous Labour ...	9,852	13,878	14,811*	13,859*
Totals	45,493	56,880	51,723	67,964

	1937.	*1938.*
* Includes Railway Construction	88	94
Roads	84	146
Other Public Works	206	349

The gold mines on the Witwatersrand continue to affect to a substantial degree the economic position of the territory, employing annually large numbers of Basuto. At the close of the year 1938, 47,470 Basuto were employed in these mines.

In addition to the Basuto employed in the gold mines, there is always a fairly large number engaged in other occupations in the industrial areas of the Union. The following numbers were so employed on the 31st December, 1938: gold 47,470; coal, 2,402; diamonds, 886; other employment, 8,934: total, 59,692.

Many of the Basuto on the Witwatersrand remit money to their families in Basutoland through the Native Recruiting Corporation, Limited, and the Native Deposit and Remittance Agency, and a large percentage of the natives recruited for the mines defer a portion of their earnings for payment to them on their return to Basutoland. Many of them also make remittances through the post, and it is estimated that an amount at least equal to the amount remitted through other channels is remitted in this way, though statistics cannot be obtained. During the year, £106,993 was remitted by Basuto to their families through the Native Recruiting Corporation, and £111,697 was paid out as deferred wages, whilst a sum of over £7,600 was paid out through the Native Deposit and Remittance Agency and through other channels.

Nearly all Basuto who work in the Union do so under contracts for periods of several months. Most then return home, sometimes permanently, sometimes only for a month or so; very few stay on the mines permanently. The demand for Basuto labour on the mines almost always exceeds the supply, since most Basuto, though ready to work awhile for a supply of ready money, prefer an easy, if poor, life under the sun of their own country to a well paid life spent beneath the earth and in a mine compound.

During the year 1932 an office was opened temporarily in Johannesburg for collecting tax from Basutoland natives employed on the Witwatersrand. At the beginning of 1933 the Agency was re-opened and it has been maintained ever since. The Agency at first dealt only with the collection of revenue, but it soon began dealing with the domestic affairs of the Basuto on the Witwatersrand, encouraging them to save money, giving them home news, counteracting as far as possible the temptations of their environment, repatriating those who are indigent and, generally, giving advice and assistance to them whenever required.

The Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland now share in the Agency which thus deals with natives from all three High Commission Territories, both in regard to the collection of taxes and in general welfare work.

The amount of Basutoland tax collected at the Agency during the years 1933-4 to 1937-8 was: 1933-4, £26,500; 1934-5, £33,146; 1935-6, £34,303; 1936-7, £34,477; 1937-8, £38,634.

It will be noticed* that the amount collected during the financial year 1937-8 bears a proportion of 22·75 per cent. to the total tax collected for the whole Territory.

The Government protects labourers by stopping recruitment for any mine or other concern where the conditions of work are not good. All labourers recruited by agents in Basutoland for work outside the Territory have to be attested before a European official and the contract must be according to Government regulations.

In the Territory itself there is no great demand for industrial labour. A small number of natives find employment with transport concerns and as shop and warehouse assistants, and there is always a certain demand by Government for labourers on road making and anti-soil erosion work and the like. Otherwise each man works on his own or his family's lands.

Labour Legislation.

Proclamation No. 37 of 1936 enables the High Commissioner to regulate the level of wages paid to natives in any occupation or in any area within the territory. A minimum wage-level may be prescribed by Notice in the Official Gazette.

Proclamation No. 71 of 1937 regulates the conditions of employment of women, young persons and children in industrial undertakings, and prohibits the employment of any person under the age of 12 years in any such undertaking, whether public or private, unless it shall be owned by that child's parents.

There was no labour legislation in 1938.

IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

There are no factories or industrial undertakings in the Territory, and there is only one mile of railway which is owned and operated by the South African Railway Administration.

Salaries and wages earned by Europeans vary from £200 to £1,000 per annum in the case of Government servants and from £120 to £600 per annum in the case of employees of trading concerns.

Native wages vary from £24 to £250 per annum in the case of Government employees and from £15 to £48 per annum in the case of store boys, etc. employed by traders.

Natives proceeding to the gold mines in the Union of South Africa receive, on an average, a wage of £3 for every 30 shifts worked, with free food and housing.

The average cost of living for single natives is estimated at £1 per mensem, and for married natives £3 per mensem. The

* See Revenue statement on page 46.

cost of living of Europeans varies considerably and is in a great measure dependent on the social or official position of the person concerned.

X.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The work of education in Basutoland is considerably affected by the nature of the country. This consists mainly of an unbroken mountain area bordered on the north and west by a narrow strip of lower and less broken countryside. In the mountain area the population is somewhat sparse, though steadily increasing. It has pushed its way up the river valleys, and its settlements are often isolated and difficult of access as well as being subject to very rigorous winter conditions. In the lowlands on the other hand, the population is much denser and conditions generally are easier.

There is a remarkable eagerness for education amongst the people, indicated by the fact that approximately two-thirds of the children of school-going age are on the school rolls, and that, in spite of the various difficulties of distance, of home or herding duties, and of a highland winter, making on occasions paths or streams impassable, the average attendance is 75 per cent. of the total enrolment.

This eagerness for education is altogether admirable, but somewhat embarrassing to the administration in a small country, the financial resources of which are limited, and inevitably one of the major concerns of the Education Department is to insure the utmost value for expenditure, which amounted to 21 per cent. of the total expenditure of the country in 1937/8.

The main end of education policy in Basutoland has been to offer to as many as possible the opportunity of learning to read and write and make simple calculations. It is recognised that at the present time the greater number of pupils will attend school for three or four years only, and, in order to achieve this end, education in the lower classes is practically all in the Native language. It may be accepted that to the boys and girls of today in Basutoland, education is not a foreign or strange thing but a normal and essential part of their environment.

Of elementary vernacular schools there are 527 which are aided from public funds and 280 which the Missions maintain without aid. On a higher educational level there are 53 schools giving instruction up to Standard VI and introducing more English into both the curriculum and the teaching medium. Of these five are purely Government schools managed by local committees.

Education of a higher standard and of vocational character is provided in one Government and twelve Mission institutions. The former is a Trades School for boys; of the latter, three train teachers to the standard of the Native Primary Lower and Higher Certificates of the Cape Province Education Department, five train girls as infant school teachers, three are schools of domestic science for girls, and one offers industrial training for boys. Ordinary education up to the level of the Junior Certificate can be obtained in two of these Mission institutions but beyond that it has been necessary in the past for students to proceed to colleges outside the Territory, more especially the South African Native College at Fort Hare, which has been supported by the Basutoland Administration from the beginning and to which two Government bursaries are available annually.

However, a Government High School is being erected and will be opened in February 1939 at the beginning of the school year. This will be a boarding school in the hands of a mixed European and African staff which will take students up to Matriculation. In consequence it will be for post-matriculation work only that Basuto students will henceforth find it necessary to go outside the Territory.

In 1938 the enrolment in all schools in the Territory was: Government schools 650, Government-aided Mission schools 68,934, unaided Mission schools 13,224—making a total of 82,808. Included in this figure are 566 pupils who are in training institutions or craft schools.

The establishment of the Education Department consists at present of a Director, three European Inspectors and five Native Supervisors. Administrative expenses are met from the general revenue but the grants-in-aid to Missions, the cost of the Goverment intermediate schools, of bursaries and certain other charges are taken from the Basutoland Education Fund. This fund receives a quarter of the Native Tax payments together with a special Education Levy of 3s. per tax-payer. It is estimated that £63,431 will be spent from this fund in 1938/39.

Education is free in all the elementary and intermediate schools and attendancce is not compulsory. There are the familiar difficulties of herding for the boys and home duties for the girls to make attendance irregular, but on the whole the eagerness to secure education is very remarkable.

The Government offers a number of bursaries for the most promising candidates at three stages in the educational ladder, namely, at the Standard VI, Junior Certificate and Matriculation examinations, when twelve, six and two bursaries are offered respectively.

Most of the vocational education is not in indigenous but in European crafts, e.g., carpentry, saddlery, laundry, cooking, etc. In many of these the problem is often to find scope for their exercise in the life of the community which can only support a very few craftsmen. In the domestic crafts of the girls there is of course ample scope and a steady raising of the standard of homes and home crafts is noticeable. But it will take some time for the ordinary life of the Basutoland countryside, which has a communal basis, to develop to the point of absorbing more than a very few skilled artisans. However, real progress here is evident and every year a few more tradesmen such as carpenters, blacksmiths, cobblers are to be found doing reasonably well at their trades.

Indigenous crafts have not a very great range, perhaps in the main through the lack of the necessary materials such as wood, osiers, etc. But an investigation conducted early in 1935 on behalf of the Government by Mr. H. V. Meyerowitz revealed how important in the life of the countryside is the pottery of the women, the grass and other weaving of both men and women, and how skilful in the clay modelling of animals etc. are some of the children. These crafts are receiving attention in the handwork of some of the schools and the possibilities of development are being considered.

The main occupations of the people of the Territory are Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, and at every stage of the educational programme efforts are made to provide practical instruction in the principles of these subjects. The schools have their gardens and provide special opportunities for instruction by the Agricultural Demonstrators; the Training Institutions stress gardening and the elements of agriculture in the preparation of teachers; the Government Technical School has a special Farmers' Course. The new High School will offer Agricultural Science as one of its most important subjects for Matriculation. In addition boys who show promise and interest are encouraged to enrol in one or other of the Native Agricultural Schools in the Union of South Africa, and a trading firm in the country gives an annual bursary for this purpose.

Social welfare activities are mainly in the hands of the Churches, and much good work is being done, and some valuable community service is rendered by the students in the Institutions under the aegis of the Students' Christian Movement or the Pathfinder (Scout) or Wayfarer (Guide) organisations. Useful training in homemaking, needlework etc. for girls who have ceased to attend the ordinary classes is given in many of the Roman Catholic day schools.

Recreative activities are noticeably on the increase, chiefly in the form of organised school games. Inter-school competitions in games, athletics, drill and singing, are frequent and popular.

The Wayfarer-Guide and Pathfinder-Boy Scout Movements are developing well and cannot fail to exert a profound and beneficial influence on the life of the people.

European Education.—There are six small schools in the Territory managed by local committees, charging modest fees, and aided by the Government. These provide elementary education for the children of Europeans. For education beyond Standard VI children are sent to schools in the Union of South Africa, and two bursaries are awarded annually on the result of a special examination. Of these the one is the " Fraser " scholarship of £50 per annum for two years, given by a prominent trading concern of that name; the other, of £25 per annum for a similar period, is the " Queen Victoria Diamond Jubilee Scholarship ".

XI.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Railways.

The Territory is linked with the railway system of the Union of South Africa by a short branch line from Maseru to Marseilles on the Bloemfontein-Natal main line. One mile of this line is in Basutoland. The South African railway runs near the boundaries of the Territory and goods are transported by road to the nearest railway station across the border.

During the year the Road Motor Transport Department of the South African Railways have continued their regular services between Fouriesburg and Butha Buthe, Zastron and Quthing, Zastron and Mohale's Hoek.

Roads.

The greater part of Basutoland is very mountainous, and in this area all transport is effected by the use of pack animals.

On the western side of Basutoland there is a strip of agricultural country from north to south in which a fairly good road system has been developed. The main roads traverse the whole of this area, with branches leading west to the principal points of exit. Nearly all the roads are gravelled and carry motor and ox-wagon traffic in all weathers. There are, however, a number of unbridged rivers and streams which, during flood periods, may delay travellers for some hours.

From the main roads a number of feeder roads lead towards the interior. By-roads to trading centres and missions start from these feeder roads and penetrate still further into the interior. Although several roads now cross the first range of mountains,

none has yet reached the second range. Feeder roads are maintained by the Government and during this year a certain amount of gravelling has been carried out and particular care taken to improve drainage at the same time.

The by-roads are in some instances unsuitable for any type of traffic except ox-waggons. They are maintained by traders and others to whose stations they lead, and annual Government grants are made towards their upkeep.

On the eastern side of Basutoland, in the Qacha's Nek district, a short road system, similar to that described above, exists, and the standard reached is much the same as that on the western side of the Territory.

During the year a causeway was constructed over the Qalo River in the Butha Buthe district. A commencement was made with the building of a causeway over the Pitsaneng stream in the Maseru district and of a low-level bridge near Mafeteng. Other construction work undertaken includes two donga crossings in north Basutoland and a road deviation on the banks of the Orange River in the Qacha's Nek district.

The task of reclaiming dongas alongside and parallel to the roads has been continued, and a number of concrete pipe culverts have been installed. These are necessary to deal with flood water held back by the contour furrows which are an important part of the anti-soil erosion work now in progress.

The funds allocated are tabulated below:—

	Construction Work.	*Maintenance.*
	£	£
1937	3,450	12,400
1938	3,000	12,700

The following is a classification of the roads in the Territory:—

Gravel.—320 miles main road and 72 miles feeder road.

Earth.—40 miles main road and 70 miles feeder road.

In addition there are approximately 280 miles of by-road which are chiefly earth roads.

Bridle-Paths.

The year 1938 has seen the commencement of the construction and realignment of the main bridle-path routes of the Territory. Approval for the expenditure of £15,500 spread over a period of three years was received in the latter part of 1937.

The work was started in December, 1937, in the Qacha's Nek district. This was followed by the establishment of working parties in January, 1938, in the north and centre of Basutoland, and towards the end of the year in the Mohale's Hoek and Quthing districts in the south.

It is estimated that there are 1,680 miles of paths which have been scheduled as main paths but it is necessary to explain shortly the nature of the work that is being undertaken. The main paths in Basutoland over this total mileage run for considerable distances through valleys and undulating hill country, but there are very many narrow precipitous gorges in the bottom of which rivers flow and many steep mountain ranges over which the paths climb through narrow passes. The main obstacles to transport in the mountains are the passes and river gorges and very heavy construction work is required to grade out the path to the maximum grade stipulated, namely 8°. The progress of the construction work should therefore be measured not only in terms of the total mileage covered but also by the number of passes and river gorges that have been completed.

During 1938 a total of 170 miles of path was constructed. This included, however, the construction of Moteng and the western side of the Ramatseliso Passes in North Basutoland, the pass from Meeni's up Thaba Putsoa named Makheka's Pass in Maseru district; also exceptionally heavy construction work in the Tsoelike and Melikane gorges in the Qacha's Nek district, and on the Ribaneng gorge in Mafeteng district. The Makhaleng River gorge has been twice crossed by the path parties. The expenditure on bridle-path reconstruction during 1938 is estimated to be £5,600.

As in the past three years, grants have been made to all Districts to enable the worst sections of the existing bridle-paths to be repaired. The expenditure on this work for the year 1937 was £980 and the estimated expenditure for 1938 is £1,000.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

During the year the usual maintenance work has been carried out on Government buildings throughout the country. In addition the following construction works have been or are being carried out:—

Two houses for European officers have been constructed at Mafeteng and one at Qacha's Nek. Plans and tenders have been received for three houses for officers in Maseru.

The accommodation for patients at Quthing Hospital has been doubled, a new operating theatre provided, and bathrooms, isolation wards and a laundry constructed. Other work for the Medical Department has included rooms for out-patients at the dispensaries at Maseru and Mafeteng; leper huts at Maseru, Leribe and Quthing; and a leper office at Qacha's Nek. A start has been made at the mountain station of Mokhotlong with hospital wards for patients. When completed these will greatly increase the accommodation for patients.

Native quarters for Government servants and police have been constructed at Teyateyaneng, Qacha's Nek, Mohale's Hoek and Mokhotlong, and cottages for visiting Chiefs at Leribe and Teyateyaneng.

A start has been made on the construction of new Government offices at Mokhotlong, and extensions to the Government offices at Leribe will allow the Post Office section to be enlarged.

During the year the main buildings for the Maseru High School were let out to contract and the school will open early in 1939. The buildings comprise school building, boys' boarding-house, Principal's house, Vice-Principal's house, and two Native teachers' houses. The Intermediate School at Mohale's Hoek has been completed.

Additional Native teachers' houses have been built at Leribe, Matsieng and Mohale's Hoek Intermediate Schools.

A number of smaller buildings including storerooms, rondavels, etc., have also been constructed.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

The laws in force in Basutoland include those of the Cape of Good Hope up to the 18th March, 1884, except where repealed or altered by proclamation of the High Commissioner, who is empowered to make by proclamation such laws as may be necessary for the peace, order and good government of the territory.

The Basutoland Courts of Law consist of:—

(a) *The Resident Commissioner's Court,* which constitutes the Supreme Court of Basutoland, and from which an appeal lies to the Privy Council. Under Proclamation No. 10 of 1928 as amended, the constitution of the Resident Commissioner's Court was altered and provision made for the appointment of a Judicial Commissioner. The Court is now constituted by the Resident Commissioner, or, when deputed by him thereto, the Deputy Resident Commissioner or the Judicial Commissioner sitting alone or together; and there may be associated with the Court not more than two officers of the Administration appointed by the Resident Commissioner for the purpose by notice in the Gazette. The Resident Commissioner when present and, in his absence, the Judicial Commissioner, is President of the Court, and the judgment of the Court is the judgment pronounced or approved by the President.

The power conferred on the Resident Commissioner to review and correct the proceedings of Courts or officers may be exercised also by the Judicial Commissioner, and any decision recorded or action taken by the Judicial Commissioner in the course of such review or correction is of the same force and effect as if it had been recorded or taken by the Resident Commissioner.

(b) *Courts of District Commissioners,* who are empowered to impose sentences not exceeding two years imprisonment with hard labour or fines not exceeding £50, with jurisdiction in civil cases up to £500. These Courts have no jurisdiction to try, as Courts of first instance, any person charged with treason, murder, attempt to murder, culpable homicide, rape, attempt to commit rape, or sedition.

(c) *Courts of Assistant District Commissioners,* with jurisdiction varying from sentences not exceeding six months and/or a fine of £10, to sentences not exceeding one year and/or a fine of £25, with civil jurisdiction in certain cases up to £250.

(d) *Chiefs' Courts.*—Under Proclamation No. 2B of 1884, the Paramount Chief and other Native Chiefs of Basutoland were authorised to continue to exercise jurisdiction according to native law and custom in civil and criminal cases within such limits as may be defined by any rules established by the authority of the Resident Commissioner, subject to a proviso that no suit, action or proceeding whatsoever to which any European shall be party, either as plaintiff or complainant, or as defendant, shall be adjudicated upon by any such Chief, save by the consent of all parties concerned. An appeal lies from a decision of any Chief to the Court of the Paramount Chief and from that Court to the Court of the District Commissioner of the District within which the action arose.

Towards the end of 1938, Proclamations establishing a High Court, Subordinate Courts and Native Courts were published to take effect from the 1st January, 1939. Details of these Courts will appear in the Report for 1939.

The following table shows the number of convictions for various crimes and offences during the last five years:—

Nature of Crime.	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1937.*	*1938.*
In Magisterial Courts—					
Offences against the person...	147	137	171	406	239
Offences against property ...	594	338	366	380	213
Offences against liquor laws	12	19	20	33	36
Other crimes	1,327	1,356	2,047	1,276	1,085
In Resident Commissioner's Court—					
Murder	11	2	12	10	7
Culpable homicide	145*	124*	67*	7	25
Attempted murder	3	3	3	1	2
Rape	1	7	3	3	4
Other offences against the person	7	3	15	—	1
Offences against property with violence to the person	3	—	10	—	1
Other offences against property	62	32	34	13	7
Public violence	—	—	—	—	29
Other crimes	2	1	1	—	1
	2,314	2,022	2,749	2,129	1,650

* Includes cases of public violence resulting in culpable homicide.

Police.

Administration.—The Resident Commissioner is Commandant of the Basutoland Mounted Police, but the departmental head is the Commissioner of Police and Prisons.

Each Police Division is in charge of a Superintendent of Police stationed at Divisional headquarters and responsible to the Commissioner of Police and Prisons for all police and prison work in the Division.

An Assistant Superintendent is stationed at each of the stations contained within a Police Division with the exception of Divisional headquarters. He is responsible to the Superintendent for all the police and prison work of his sub-division.

All non-commissioned ranks are recruited from among the natives of the territory.

The following table shows the establishment and the actual strength of the Force as on the 31st December, 1938:—

	Establishment.	*Strength.*
Europeans.—		
Commissioner	1	1
Superintendents	4	5
Assistant Superintendents ...	8	7
	13	13
Native Ranks.—		
Sergeant-Major	1	1
Senior Sergeants	4	4
Sergeants	10	10
Corporals	15	15
Privates	260	259
	290	289

Depot.—The Police Training Depot is under the supervision of a senior officer and the detail work is carried out by the Native Sergeant-Major and a Native Drill Instructor.

Seventeen recruits underwent a six months' training course, three privates were sent in from the Divisions for refresher courses, and the four senior sergeants were given a special course when they were promoted.

Fingerprint Bureau.—During the year 1,747 "slips" were received for examination—an increase of 391 on last year's figures. Five hundred and thirty of these were in connection with deportations from the Union of South Africa.

Co-operation is maintained with the South African Police, and the Bureau is in constant touch with the Fingerprint Office in Pretoria.

Health.—The health of the Police during the year has been good. The death of one private is recorded with regret.

Conduct.—The conduct of members of the force has been satisfactory.

Work of the Police.—In 1938 10,433 patrols were sent out, involving 12,407 men. The patrols covered 198,841 miles and the men covered 277,129 miles. The main object is the prevention of stock theft and the punishment of the thieves. Three hundred and six cases were dealt with and of these 200 were sent to Native Courts. Stock theft is the most serious crime in the Territory and progress towards its suppression is satisfactory.

Prisons.

Administration.—The prisons are controlled by the Commissioner of Police and Prisons, acting through the Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents in each Division or Sub-Division. Each prison itself is in charge of a gaoler, subordinate to the local Police officer. In most cases the gaolers are native officials. The prisons at Maseru and Leribe, however, are in charge of European gaolers. The subjoined table shows the strength of the prison staff as on the 31st December, 1938:—

Gaol.	*European Gaolers.*	*Native Staff.*				*Total*
		Warders Grade 2.	*Warders Grade 3.*	*Warders Grade 4.*	*Female Warders*	
Leribe	1	—	1	10	—	12
Butha Buthe ...	—	1	—	4	—	5
Maseru	1	—	1	15	3	20
Teyateyaneng ...	—	1	—	4	—	5
Mafeteng ...	—	—	1	5	—	6
Mohale's Hoek...	—	—	1	5	—	6
Quthing ...	—	—	1	3	—	4
Qacha's Nek ...	—	—	1	4	—	5
Mokhotlong ...	—	—	1	3	—	4
Total ...	2	2	7	53	3	67

Buildings.—All gaol buildings are of stone with iron roofs and cement floors; the inmates are supplied with bed-boards on which to sleep. The majority of cells are built to contain eight to ten prisoners, but there are usually one or two smaller ones for violent or dangerous inmates, or for occasional European convicts. Attached to each prison is an exercise yard and cement baths with water laid on. The cook-house is in the yard and a daily scale of ration as laid down by statute is provided. As no special accommodation exists in the district gaols for female or European prisoners, they are invariably transferred to Maseru.

Health.—The daily average of prisoners on the sick list during 1938 was 8·67. This standard of health is good. There were six deaths recorded during the year.

All prisoners are medically examined on admission and regular visits of inspection are made to the gaols by the Medical Officer of the station. Prisoners reporting sick are taken to the Government dispensary for examination and, if necessary, are admitted to hospital where they receive the same treatment as other patients.

Discipline.—During the year conduct was satisfactory. Two prisoners escaped but both were recaptured.

Labour.—The policy commenced in 1931 of utilizing convicts to a greater extent on road construction and maintenance in the vicinity of the various Government stations has been maintained. Where possible, convicts are trained to become useful members of society on release, by instruction in such trades as masonry, carpentry, building and other kinds of manual labour.

Sentences.—The majority of offenders are given the option of paying a fine in lieu of imprisonment with hard labour. Provision was made by Proclamation No. 55 of 1921 for the punishment of offenders in certain cases, by which the Court may in its discretion—

(*a*) postpone for a period not exceeding six months the passing of sentence, and release the offender on one or more conditions; or

(*b*) pass sentence but order the operation of the sentence to be suspended for a period not exceeding three years on such conditions as the Court may specify in the order; or

(*c*) pass sentence of a fine or, in default of payment, imprisonment, but suspend the issue of a warrant committing the offender to a gaol in default of payment until the expiry of such a period not exceeding twelve months as the Court may fix for payment, in instalments or otherwise, of the amount of the fine or until default has been made.

Good conduct remission up to one-fourth of the sentence is allowed on all sentences of imprisonment for six months or more.

Leave on Licence.—In 1938, six prisoners were released on licence. Of these, one was recommitted to prison for failing to observe the conditions of release.

Religious facilities.—No resident chaplains are attached to the gaols but visits of ministers of religion are permitted. Voluntary services are held by the clerical and lay staffs of various denominations.

Statistics.—During 1938, 2,241 persons were admitted to prison in the Territory, of which 1,384 were committed to penal imprisonment. The corresponding figures for 1937 were 2,650

and 1,672 respectively. The daily average of adults confined was 374·4 compared with 432·8 for the previous year.

All juvenile prisoners are transferred to Leribe where they are kept segrated from adult prisoners so far as possible. The daily average number of juveniles in prison during the year was 12·3 a decrease of two compared with 1937.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following is the legislation for the year 1938 which has been proclaimed in the Gazette:—

(1) No. 2.—Basutoland Medical, Dental and Pharmacy (Further Amendment) Proclamation, 1938. Empowering the Resident Commissioner to licence under certain conditions persons as medical practitioners.

(2) No. 3.—Basutoland Further Appropriation (1936–7) Proclamation, 1938. Making further provision from the public funds to meet additional expenditure for the year ended 31st March, 1937.

(3) No. 8.—Basutoland Aliens (Amendment) Proclamation, 1938. Making regulations for appeals against removal orders made by the Resident Commissioner.

(4) No. 13.—Basutoland Public Service (Amendment) Proclamation, 1938. Probationary period for appointments to pensionable office to be two years.

(5) No. 19.—Basutoland Pensions (Amendment) Proclamation, 1938. Promulgating certain amended regulations.

(6) No. 27.—Basutoland Appropriation (1938–9) Proclamation, 1938. Providing out of the public funds for the services of the year ending 31st March, 1939.

(7) No. 28.—Basutoland Administration of Estates (Amendment) Proclamation, 1938. Providing for the rate of interest on and the investment of money held by the Master.

(8) No. 30.—Basutoland Aliens (Further Amendment) Proclamation, 1938. Making it an offence for an alien to be found in the Territory without a permit.

(9) No. 32.—Basutoland Auctioneer's Licence and Auction Dues (Amendment) Proclamation, 1938. Empowering the Resident Commissioner to waive auction dues under certain circumstances.

(10) No. 33.—Basutoland Marriage (Amendment) Proclamation, 1938. Enabling a widow to marry her deceased husband's brother under certain circumstances.

(11) No. 36.—Basutoland Anthrax (Amendment) Proclamation, 1938. Empowering the High Commissioner to proclaim Ports of Entry for animals, and the Principal Veterinary Officer to arrange inspections, etc.

(12) No. 37.—Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1938. Fixing the normal rates of income tax and super tax for the year ended 30th June, 1938.

(13) No. 40.—Basutoland Preservation of Natural and Historical Monuments, Relics, Antiques, Fauna and Flora Proclamation, 1938. Empowering the Resident Commissioner to proclaim any such object for its preservation.

(14) No. 44.—Basutoland Sedition Proclamation, 1938. Providing generally for the suppression of sedition.

(15) No. 47.—Basutoland Poll Tax (Amendment) Proclamation, 1938. Defining " ordinary residence."

(16) No. 54.—Basutoland Sedition (Amendment) Proclamation, 1938. Clarifying the meaning of " seditious intention " in the main law.

(17) No. 57.—Basutoland High Court Proclamation, 1938. Establishing a High Court for Basutoland to replace the Resident Commissioner's Court.

(18) No. 58.—Basutoland Subordinate Courts Proclamation, 1938. Consolidating the law relative to Subordinate Courts and to the jurisdiction, powers and duties of officers presiding over such Courts.

(19) No. 59.—Basutoland Criminal Procedure and Evidence Proclamation, 1938. Consolidating and amending the law relating to procedure and evidence in criminal cases.

(20) No. 60.—Basutoland Criminal Liability of Intoxicated Persons Proclamation, 1938.

(21) No. 61.—Basutoland Native Administration Proclamation, 1938. Providing for the recognition of the Paramount Chief and of Native Chiefs, Sub-Chiefs, and Headmen, and defining their powers and functions.

(22) No. 62.—Basutoland Native Courts Proclamation, 1938. Making better provision for the recognition, constitution, powers and jurisdiction of Native Courts and generally for the administration of justice in cases cognisable by Native Courts.

(23) No. 69.—Basutoland Public Holidays Proclamation, 1938. Consolidating and amending the law relating to Public Holidays.

XV.—BANKING, CURRENCY AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks within the Territory; but the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, has a branch office at Maseru.

The currency is provided for under Proclamation No. 2 of 1933 and is the same as in the Union of South Africa.

The weights and measures in common use in the Territory are the British Imperial.

XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure for the past five financial years:—

Revenue.

Head.	*1933–4.*	*1934–5.*	*1935–6.*	*1936–7.*	*1937–8.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Native Tax	90,017	129,313	140,910	153,238	170,117
Customs and Excise ...	90,040	104,442	111,633	121,604	127,775
Posts and Telegraphs ...	12,906	11,437	14,188	15,008	24,504
Licences	8,466	8,614	9,181	9,634	10,444
Fees of Court or Office ...	773	361	346	401	391
Judicial Fines	423	739	431	815	800
Income Tax	4,116	5,608	4,036	5,306	9,749
Poll Tax	1,265	1,345	1,334	1,346	1,354
Fees for Services Rendered	1,023	1,016	1,270	1,216	1,498
Interest	1,963	1,408	1,303	1,680	3,110
Wool and Mohair Export Duty	8,107	6,786	7,375	8,078	6,908
Miscellaneous	12,155	12,422	11,294	14,113	15,564
Education Levy	10,339	14,767	16,240	17,777	19,793
Civil Servants Salary Deductions.	4,550	2,689	2,148	—	—
	246,143	300,947	321,689	350,216	392,007
Colonial Development Fund	—	1,543	207	18,688	26,910
Totals	£246,143	£302,490	£321,896	£368,904	£418,917

Expenditure.

Head.	*1933–4.*	*1934–5.*	*1935–6.*	*1936–7.*	*1937–8.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner ...	13,163	13,018	13,603	13,918	15,457
District Administration ...	16,157	16,874	17,318	18,453	21,501
Police	33,386	34,188	33,604	32,801	—
Police and Prisons ...	—	—	—	—	44,602
Posts and Telegraphs ...	10,949	10,599	11,990	12,397	13,601
Administration of Justice	13,923	13,676	13,250	13,691	—
Judicial and Legal... ...	—	—	—	—	2,702
Public Works Department	5,308	5,476	5,621	5,374	5,129
Public Works Recurrent ...	20,644	25,493	28,338	21,483	24,392
Public Works Extraordinary.	1,031	6,426	5,119	10,487	18,550
Medical	25,712	26,605	29,314	29,614	30,078
Education	39,352	53,358	57,860	62,055	68,814
Lerotholi Technical School	5,515	6,504	6,205	5,948	7,120
Agriculture—					
Veterinary	12,598	12,944	12,295	18,330	19,364
Agricultural	7,351	8,665	9,495	7,089	9,388
Allowances to Chiefs ...	11,145	9,413	11,207	12,993	13,617
Basutoland Council ...	735	1,697	1,715	1,719	1,755
Leper Settlement	19,670	19,138	18,200	17,933	17,484
Pensions	14,562	13,962	16,862	15,349	15,186
Miscellaneous	40,911	15,399	6,476	6,114	8,144
Census	—	—	196	3,464	855
	292,112	293,435	298,668	309,212	337,739
Colonial Development Fund	—	1,543	207	18,668	*26,910
Totals	£292,112	£294,978	£298,875	£327,880	£364,649

* Includes expenditure on ecological survey, livestock improvement, wool-classing measures, and the Anti-soil Erosion Campaign.

Liabilities and Assets.

The surplus balance at the 31st March, 1938, amounted to £159,077. £35,000 of the surplus balance is on loan to the Swaziland Government at 3½ per cent. per annum. This loan is repayable by 1943.

The detailed statement of Liabilities and Assets at the 31st March, 1938, is as follows:—

Liabilities.	£	*Assets.*	£
Guardians' Fund Deposit Account	7,326	On deposit with the Crown Agents for the Colonies, London	140,000
Sub-Accountants' Suspense Account	5,795	Crown Agents, London, Current Account ...	145
Stores Imprest Account ...	13,486	Standard Bank of South Africa Ltd., Current Account	30,618
Basutoland Wool and Mohair Fund	2,406	Balances in hands of Sub-Accountants	11,262
Basutoland Education Fund	34,066	Advances Recoverable ...	7,853
Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland Tax Account	3,860	On loan to Swaziland Administration	35,000
Deposits	2,898	Stores Suspense	5,905
Colonial Development Fund	2,680	South African Railways ...	811
Balance of Assets over Liabilities	159,077		
	231,594		231,594

The Wool and Mohair Fund was established under Proclamation No. 39 of 1931 with funds received from the Union Government under Notice No. 1493 dated the 15th August, 1930, in respect of wool and mohair exported from Basutoland together with amounts recovered from persons to whom livestock or other articles have been supplied from moneys provided by the Fund. The proceeds of this fund are devoted to the promotion of the future production of wool and mohair. The purchase of high-class merino rams for re-sale to natives described in a previous chapter is financed from this fund.

Estimated Financial Position at the 31st March, 1939.—The latest estimate is that there will be a surplus of revenue over expenditure for the financial year 1938-9 of £15,000, and that the surplus balance on the 31st March, 1939, will amount to £174,077.

Description of Main Heads of Taxation.

Native Tax.

The rate of tax is 25s. for every adult male native domiciled in Basutoland, and in addition 25s. for each wife after the first, but no native is liable for more than £3 15s. in any one year for himself and his wives.

The collection was £16,880 more than in 1936-7 and was made up of £55,981 Arrear, £113,481 Current (1937-8) and £655 Advance (1938-9) Tax. The total collected during the year was £170,117.

Customs and Excise.

£125,830 13s. 10d. was received from the Union Government under the Customs Agreement and represents ·88575 per cent. of the gross Customs revenue of the Union of South Africa for the twelve months ended the 31st March, 1938. Local collections on Union manufactured spirits and beer amount to £1,944 4s. 1d.

Licences.

There was no change in the rates paid for the various classes of licences during the year under review.

Income Tax.

The rates fixed for the tax-year ended the 30th June, 1937, were the same as those for the previous year and were:—

(1) Normal Tax:—

(*a*) In the case of companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, two shillings and sixpence.

(*b*) In the case of persons other than companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, one shilling and as many two-thousandths of a penny as there are pounds in that amount, subject to a maximum rate of two shillings in every pound.

(2) Super Tax:—

(*a*) When the amount subject to super tax does not exceed twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, one shilling and as many five-hundredths of a penny as there are pounds in that amount.

(*b*) When the amount subject to super tax exceeds twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, five shillings.

The following abatements were deducted from the taxable income of any person, other than a company, for the purpose of determining the taxable amount:—

Abatements:—

(*a*) Primary £400.

(*b*) Life insurance and similar allowances. A deduction not exceeding £50 is made in respect of premiums paid during the period of assessment on policies under which the taxpayer, his wife or minor children are insured against death, accident or sickness.

(*c*) A deduction not exceeding £10 is allowed for fees or subscriptions paid during the period of assessment to any friendly or benefit society.

(*d*) £100 for each unmarried child or step-child who was alive during any portion of the year of assessment and was or would have been under the age of 21 years on the last day of the year of assessment.

(*e*) A sum of £30 for each dependant of the taxpayer.

(*f*) A deduction of 20 per cent. is made from the Normal tax payable.

The total of the abatements and allowances is reduced.

(1) In the case of every such taxpayer (i) who during any portion of the period in respect of which the assessment is made was married; or (ii) who during the whole or any portion of the period in respect of which the assessment was made was divorced, but maintained during any portion of that period a child of his own or a step-child who was or would have been had he lived under the age of 21 years on the last day of the year of assessment in respect of which, or portion of which, the assessment is made, the reduction shall be by one pound for every completed ten pounds by which the taxable income of such person exceeds six hundred pounds or when the period assessed is less than twelve months, by which it exceeds so much of six hundred pounds as is proportionate to the period assessed: Provided that for the purpose of this paragraph any person who was a widower or widow during the whole or any portion of the period in respect of which the assessment is made shall be assessed as though he had been married throughout that period and any person who has been separated under a judicial order or written agreement throughout that period shall be assessed as though he had been divorced throughout that period.

(2) In the case of all other persons to whom paragraph (1) of this sub-section does not apply, the reduction shall be by one pound for every completed pound by which the taxable income of any such person exceeds three hundred pounds or, when the period assessed is less than twelve months by which it exceeds so much of three hundred pounds as is proportionate to the period assessed. In the case of persons other than companies the assessment is subject to a rebate of 20 per cent.

Companies.—In the case of companies an abatement of £300, which is subject to reductions in accordance with paragraph (2) above.

Super Tax is payable (other than by a public company) on a taxable income exceeding in the aggregate £2,500 in any year of assessment. The taxable income of any person determined for normal tax purposes is the amount upon which the super tax is assessed.

There is an abatement of £2,500 and this is diminished by £1 for every £1 by which the income, subject to super tax, exceeds £2,500.

Dividends accruing to non-residents are exempt from super tax provided such dividends are not paid or payable within the territory.

The sources from which taxable incomes were derived and the amount of tax paid for the tax years 1936-7 and 1937-8 are as follows:—

Source.	*1936–7.*	*1937–8.*
	£	£
General Traders	3,778	8,368
Civil Servants	717	893
Employed persons	90	163
Others	502	225
Non-residents	219	100
	5,306	9,749

The numbers of incomes assessed for current tax and the total amount of taxable incomes in the categories shown are:—

Numbers.	*Categories.*	*Total of Taxable Incomes.*
	£	£
13	500 and under	9,238
36	501–750	21,936
30	751–1,000	22,499
25	1,001–1,500	37,612
5	1,501–2,000	16,832
6	Over 2,000	78,908
115		£187,025

Stamp Duties and Fees on Documents payable by means of Stamps.

The duties and fees payable are specified in the Schedule to Proclamation No. 16 of 1907 as amended and are classified under the following heads:—

Arbitrations and Awards.
Bonds.
Courts of Law (District Commissioners' Courts).
Civil Cases (Resident Commissioner's Court).
Acts or Deeds of Donations.
Leases.
Master's Office:
(*a*) Insolvency;
(*b*) Orphan Chamber.
Office Fees and Transfers and Miscellaneous.

Estate Duty is payable in terms of the Basutoland Death Duties Proclamation of 1935 at ½ per cent. upon the first £2,000 and up to 17 per cent. on £75,000 and over, and the rates of Succession Duty vary from 2 to 10 per cent.

Wool and Mohair Export Duty.

This duty remained at ¼d. per lb. for the period 1st April, 1937, to 31st March, 1938.

Poll Tax.

The rate is fixed at £2 per annum payable half-yearly on the 1st January, and the 1st July, by all adult males domiciled in Basutoland who are not liable to pay Native Tax. In the case of failure to pay any one instalment of the tax within the period provided, a further sum of 2s. for each month or part of a month is payable.

Posts and Telegraphs.

The revenue amounted to £24,504 7s. 6d. during the financial year ended 31st March, 1938, and the expenditure to £13,600 9s. 7d.

During the financial year 1937-8, postal and money orders to the value of £26,417 15s. 3d. were issued and £41,148 5s. 8d. paid

The Union Post Office Savings Bank system is in operation in Basutoland, and the following deposits and withdrawals at post offices in the territory were made during the financial year 1937-8:—

	£
Deposits	36,740
Withdrawals	31,770

Basutoland has its own postage and revenue stamps. The King George VI issue was placed on sale on 1st April, 1938. There are twelve denominations ranged in the following order, the first eleven being postage and revenue stamps: ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., and, for revenue purposes only, £1. The respective colours are green, red, light blue, purple, blue, grey, light brown, orange, dark brown, blue purple, olive and black. One design only is used, which contains a vignette of His Majesty the King, placed above a scene depicting the Maluti mountains and the Orange river, while in the foreground is a representation of a crocodile—the emblem of the ruling house of Moshesh.

Johannesburg Agency.

The Report on the Financial and Economic Position of Basutoland dated January, 1935* (page 58), recommended the permanent establishment of this Agency, and all three High Commission Territories now participate and contribute towards the cost of maintenance.

Revenue is collected from the Basuto, Bechuana and Swazis working in the Transvaal industrial and mining areas, and the functions of the Agency are now extended to general welfare work. (A fuller report of the work of this Agency will be found under Chapter VIII, Labour.)

The total revenue collections for 1938 compared with 1937 are:—

	1937. £	1938. £
Basutoland	40,955†	45,978†
Bechuanaland Protectorate	4,483	7,944
Swaziland	9,475	10,934
	54,913	64,856

The collections on behalf of the Bechuanaland Protectorate Administration commenced in May, 1934, and in June, 1934, for Swaziland.

* Cmd. 4907.
† Including Education Levy.

APPENDIX I.

REVIEW OF PROGRESS IN BASUTOLAND, 1935-1938.

The report of the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs to inquire into the financial and economic position of Basutoland was completed in January, 1935, and was presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty in May, 1935 (Cmd. 4907). The searching enquiry carried out by Sir Alan Pim with the assistance of Mr. S. Milligan into the conditions obtaining in Basutoland at the time of the visit revealed the precarious financial position of the Territory, the decline of its economic resources and the alarming increase of soil erosion in recent years. Radical changes and developments were recommended, covering nearly every aspect of administrative and departmental activity and providing the foundation for the regeneration and rehabilitation of the country. The report was welcomed by His Majesty's Government and by the local Administration and a carefully considered long-range policy was adopted to implement and supplement the recommendations of the Commission.

The results of this policy are now evident and a brief review of the progress made since the publication of the Report seems opportune.

(i) The Financial Position.

In his summary of the position as regards Revenue and Expenditure (paragraphs 231 and 232) Sir Alan Pim found that the revised estimates for the financial year 1934-5 anticipated a deficit of £23,000 on the year's working, reducing the opening balance for the 1935-6 to approximately £9,844. The Estimates for 1935-6. which were then in draft form, provided for a deficit of £3,980, reducing the accumulated surplus balance to less than £6,000. The Education Fund, financed by a contribution of one-quarter of the Native Tax and a special levy of 3s. per taxpayer, was exhausted. There was a deficit of £4,021 at the end of 1933-4 and it was estimated (paragraph 181 of the report) that the adverse balance would be increased to £6,000 by the 31st March, 1935. The deficit was regarded as a debt by the Fund to the general account for the Territory.

On the 31st of March, 1938, the accumulated surplus balance of the general account carried forward to 1938-9 amounted to £159,077 and the reserve of the Education Fund was £34,066. Taken together, these reserves are the largest yet established in Basutoland and their accumulation has been coincident with a policy of vigorous development and expansion of social services.

As shown in the table below, revenue has steadily increased from £246,143 in 1933-4 to £392,007 in 1937-8, the principal increases being under Native Tax, Customs and Excise, Income Tax and Education Levy.

Schedule of Revenue, 1933–34 to 1937–38.

Head of Revenue.	*1933–34.*	*1934–35.*	*1935–36.*	*1936–37.*	*1937–38.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Native Tax	90,017	129,313	140,910	153,238	170,117
Customs and Excise	90,040	104,442	111,633	121,604	127,775
Posts and Telegraphs	12,906	11,437	14,188	15,008	*24,504
Licences	8,466	8,614	9,181	9,634	10,444
Fees of Court, etc.	773	361	346	401	391
Fines	423	739	431	815	800
Income Tax	4,116	5,608	4,036	5,306	9,749
Poll Tax	1,265	1,345	1,334	1,346	1,354
Fees for Services Rendered ...	1,023	1,016	1,270	1,216	1,498
Interest	1,963	1,408	1,303	1,680	3,110
Wool and Mohair Export Duty	8,107	6,786	7,375	8,078	6,908
Miscellaneous	12,155	12,422	11,294	14,113	15,564
Education Levy	10,339	14,767	16,240	17,777	19,793
Civil Servants' Salary Deductions	4,550	2,689	2,148	—	—
Totals	£246,143	300,947	321,689	350,216	392,007

*Sale of Coronation Stamps.

In paragraphs 90 and 91 of his report Sir Alan Pim commented on the methods of Native Tax collection and the state of the tax registers. The improvement which has taken place is, in a large measure, due to closer co-operation between the Chiefs and the Government as a result of the policy of identifying the Chiefs with the collection of tax. Other factors are the personal attention given by District Officers to the checking of tax registers and to the proper recording of exemptions. This is particularly noticeable since 1937 when the Administrative Staff was brought up to its present strength, so enabling District Officers to spend more time travelling in their districts.

Prior to 1936-37 the best collection of Native Tax was made in 1928-29 when £141,719 was realised. During that year (1928-29) the total revenue was £339,892—a record which was not passed until 1936-37. Customs and Excise provided £96,072 of this sum while the Wool Export Duty contributed £33,976.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Commission the fees for Motor Licences were increased by 50 per cent. as from the 1st of January, 1936, and increases were made in the rates of Succession Duties and Fees of Court or Office. The increase of revenue from these sources was estimated at £850.

Provision has been made under the Basutoland Native Trading Proclamation, 1936, for the issue of minor trading licences to natives at the special rates of £5 in townships and

£2 10s. od. elsewhere. These licences do not permit trading in wool, mohair or livestock and should a native wish to engage in this business, which is of a speculative nature, he is required to be in possession of a full Trader's Licence.

In his report (paragraph 98) Sir Alan Pim referred to the credit system of trade as a snare to the native. Legislation was introduced in 1936 providing that no debt for money lent or goods supplied by a non-native to a native shall be recoverable in any Court unless the transaction is approved in writing by an Administrative Officer or the native holds a general permit from an Administrative Officer to contract debts without his approval in each individual transaction. No difficulties have arisen in connection with the working of this proclamation.

Prominence has been given to the improvement in the revenues of the country because the Commission recognized that " Increased resources must be looked for in a reorganization of the system of collection of the Native Tax and in increasing the resources of the people in meeting it, by improvements in the system of cultivation and in the quality of the stock and by organizing the classing of wool and mohair so as to obtain better prices ". The table on page 54 shows the improvement effected in tax collection and later on in this memorandum the measures taken to increase the resources of the people will be described. Details will be given of the generous assistance provided by the Colonial Development Fund for this purpose, but it is necessary to note the increased financial resources of Basutoland which have enabled the country to bear a large share of the cost of reorganization and development.

A table of expenditure for the past five years is given. Special comment is not necessary here but the Schedule will be useful for reference when details of development and reorganization are described later in this memorandum.

Schedule of Expenditure, 1933–34 to 1937–38.

Head of Expenditure.	*1933–34.*	*1934–35.*	*1935–36.*	*1936–37.*	*1937–38**
	£	£	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner ...	13,163	13,018	13,603	13,918	15,457
District Administration ...	16,157	16,874	17,318	18,453	21,501
Police	33,386	34,188	33,604	32,801	—
Police and Prisons	—	—	—	—	44,602
Posts and Telegraphs	10,949	10,599	11,990	12,397	13,601
Administration of Justice* ...	13,923	13,676	13,250	13,691	—
Judicial and Legal	—	—	—	—	2,702
Public Works Department ...	5,308	5,476	5,621	5,374	5,129
Public Works Recurrent ...	20,644	25,493	28,338	21,483	24,392
Public Works Extraordinary ...	1,031	6,426	5,119	10,487	18,550
Medical	25,712	26,605	29,314	29,614	30,078
Education	39,352	53,358	57,860	62,055	68,814
Lerotholi Technical School ...	5,515	6,504	6,205	5,948	7,120

*Including Prisons.

Schedule of Expenditure, 1933–34 to 1937–38—contd.

Head of Expenditure.	*1933–34.*	*1934–35.*	*1935–36.*	*1936–37.*	*1937–38.*
Agricultural and Veterinary Department :—					
(1) Agricultural Division ...	7,351	12,944	9,495	7,089	9,388
(2) Veterinary Division ...	12,598	8,665	12,295	18,330	19,364
Allowances to Chiefs, etc. ...	11,145	9,413	11,207	12,993	13,617
Basutoland Council	735	1,697	1,715	1,719	1,755
Leper Settlement	19,670	19,138	18,200	17,933	17,484
Pensions	14,562	13,962	16,862	15,349	15,186
Miscellaneous	40,911	15,399	6,476	6,114	8,144
Census	—	—	196	3,464	855
Totals	£292,112	293,435	298,668	309,212	337,739

(ii) Administration.

The Commission found an Administrative Establishment comprising seven Assistant Commissioners, one Deputy Assistant Commissioner, ten Police Officers and ten European Clerks. The recognised line of promotion was from Clerk to Police Officer and from Police Officer to Assistant Commissioner and, as the Commission pointed out, this system was not in the best interests of the Service. Officers performing purely clerical duties almost entirely of a routine nature were promoted to be senior Police Officers without any of the training required for that work, and their subsequent experience as Police Officers was not a suitable training for Administrative appointments.

The reorganization of the Administrative and Police services on separate lines was accomplished on the 1st of January, 1937. At the same time the staff of the Government Secretary, a Chief Clerk and two Clerks, was replaced by a First Assistant Secretary and two Assistant Secretaries, these posts being filled by officers seconded from the District Administration.

The establishment for the District Administration was fixed at eight District Commissioners and fifteen Assistant District Commissioners and Cadets. To attract suitable entrants and to provide reasonable prospects of advancement the salary scale of District Commissioners was raised to £700 × £30—£900 and that for Assistant District Commissioners and Cadets on probation was fixed at £340 for two years, then £360 × £20—£500 × £25—£600 with an efficiency bar at £500. Leave passages to and from the United Kingdom are now provided for District Officers and their wives and, with due allowance for climatic conditions, these scales are comparable with those in force in East Africa. The vacancies in the cadre of Assistant District Commissioners were filled by the promotion of those serving officers who were suitable for inclusion in the Administrative Service and by new appointments by the Secretary of State from officers selected for the Unified Colonial Administrative

Service. Arrangements have since been made for all newly appointed Cadets to take the usual course of training at Oxford or Cambridge.

Two of the Assistant District Commissioners included in the establishment of fifteen are for employment out of Basutoland, one as Private Secretary to the High Commissioner and the other in charge of the Johannesburg Agency.

The reorganization of the Police as a completely self-contained department, providing a satisfactory career for suitable officers, followed generally the lines recommended by Sir Alan Pim. It was considered desirable, however, that the junior officers should be regarded as being of commissioned rank, the Native ranks continuing to provide the non-commissioned officers of the force. To conform with the nomenclature in force in most Colonial dependencies the titles of Inspector and Sub-Inspector were changed to Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent. Control of the Prisons was transferred from the District Commissioners to the new Department the District Commissioners being appointed as Visiting Justices. The Head of the Department was styled Commissioner of Police and Prisons. The European establishment and salary scales were fixed as follows:—

Commissioner of Police and Prisons	£750
Four Superintendents	£400—£20—£600
Eight Assistant Superintendents	£240—£10—£360
One Head Gaoler	£300—£15—£360
Two Gaolers	£240—£15—£300

The system of accounting in the Stores Department has been simplified, and increasing supplies of local produce are purchased for fodder and rations, preference being given to such locally produced crops. Purchases by officials of supplies from the Government store have been discontinued except in the case of fodder, petrol and oil for officers in receipt of horse or motor transport allowances, and it was found possible to reduce the Stores Imprest by £5,000 in 1938-9. The increased work thrown upon the Stores Department by the Anti-erosion Works and the general development schemes undertaken since 1935 has been done with the same staff as in 1933-4. This has been possible by the reorganization described above.

Sir Alan Pim referred to the Government Agency at Johannesburg as an excellent feature and recorded that regarded merely as a revenue collecting Agency it had fully justified its existence but that its general welfare activities were of even greater importance. It was then still treated as being in the experimental stage but in January, 1936, it was established on permanent lines as an Agency for the three High Commission Territories. The staff was then an Assistant District Commissioner and a Clerk with eight Native tax collectors, but with

the demands made upon the Agency by the increasing mining activity on the Rand it has been necessary to increase the staff of Administrative Officers to three, Bechuanaland and Swaziland each providing one. The cost of the Agency is shared between the three Administrations in the following proportion:—

Basutoland	75 per cent.
Bechuanaland	15 „
Swaziland	10 „

The annual collections of Basutoland tax and education levy through the Agency for the past five years were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
1933–34	32,556	7	0
1934–35	38,066	12	0
1935–36	39,833	0	0
1936–37	40,954	12	0
1937–38	45,977	18	0

Perhaps the greatest service rendered by the Agency is in keeping the mine workers in touch with their homes and in tracing missing relatives, but working in close association with the Union Native Affairs Department and with the Chamber of Mines much has been done to improve the conditions under which natives from the territories are employed, and to adjust differences between the natives and their employers as they arise. Up to the end of 1938 the Agency dealt with no less than 5,269 applications for assistance, return of relatives, repatriations and similar matters, most of which were brought to a successful conclusion.

Possibly the most important change which has taken place has been in the relations of Government and the Native Administration of Basutoland. Sir Alan Pim found that " The Government and the Native organization still work practically independently of each other, and no attempt has been made to combine them into a real system of government or to make such modifications in the Native system as would render it capable of dealing with the changing condition of modern times and with the effects of the introduction of a money economy and of contact with European institutions. . . . In some ways the dual institutions seem to have become even more aloof from one another of recent years."

Earlier in his report Sir Alan Pim said: " When the Territory was first taken over in 1868 and afterwards resumed in 1884 . . . . . the British Government was practically a border Administration and could not take any effective action in internal affairs. There was then and there is now no rule either direct or indirect by the British Government. The Nation is ruled by its Chiefs and the Government can merely proffer advice; this is not asked for nor welcomed when it is a question of how the rule should be administered, but is clamoured for when a

difficult position arises. The Basuto receive protection without control and not only the Chiefs or the National Council, but the mass of the people consider their obligations are fulfilled by paying taxes. Apart from this they are obsessed by the idea of their complete independence, except those who have suffered under the oppression of their Chiefs."

The Native Courts were the subject of severe criticism and attention was drawn to delays, denial of justice and the lack of control or organization.

The Native Administration has for the past three and a half years been associated through the Paramount Chief and Chiefs with every development which has taken place. A feeling of trust and mutual confidence has been established and whenever necessary strong concerted action has been taken by the Paramount Chief and the Government to prevent abuses and oppression and to ensure justice. In the words of the Paramount Chief " The Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief are now one—there are not two Governments but one Government ". This has been an important factor in the measures which have been undertaken for the rehabilitation of the country. Instead of meeting with suspicion and obstruction the anti-erosion, livestock improvement and similar schemes have been welcomed and supported by the Basuto and their success has been assured.

The final stage was reached at the end of 1938 when a Native Administration Proclamation and a Native Courts Proclamation on the lines of similar legislation in Nigeria, Tanganyika and Northern Rhodesia were enacted with the full agreement of the Paramount Chief and his advisers. The Paramount Chief took the greatest interest in the drafting of these proclamations and made many valuable suggestions which were adopted in the text.

(iii) Administration of Justice.

As mentioned by Sir Alan Pim the High Court of the Territory was the Court of the Resident Commissioner. It is not necessary to comment upon the undesirability of the executive head of the Administration combining his duties with those of a Judge, but sufficient to note that this arrangement came to an end on the 31st December, 1938, when a separate High Court was established for each of the three High Commission Territories. Proclamations constituting the Courts of Administrative Officers as Courts subordinate to the High Court and defining their jurisdiction and procedure, were enacted at the same time. District Commissioners and Assistant District Commissioners in charge of districts or sub-districts are appointed to hold Subordinate Courts of the first class, Assistant District Commissioners to hold Subordinate Courts of the second class, and Cadets to hold Subordinate Courts of the third class.

The enactment of the Native Courts Proclamation has been recorded in a previous paragraph. It provides for the establishment of Native Courts by Government, with appropriate jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters, their supervision and control by Administrative Officers, for the review of cases and the hearing of appeals.

(iv) Medical and Public Health.

After reviewing the earlier medical work and organization in Basutoland and paying a tribute to the competence and devotion to duty of the medical staff Sir Alan Pim summarized the primary medical need of Basutoland as "the wider extension of medical and public health services." "This," he said, "would include the construction of new hospitals and improvement of some of the existing hospitals, the construction and maintenance of out-dispensaries and the training of the staff required for them, the commencement of a real attack on venereal disease, the extension of maternity and child welfare work, and, in the lowlands at any rate a small public health organization directed more especially to the protection and improvement of village water supplies and to general health propaganda including such matters as precautions against typhus."

One of the first steps towards the fulfilment of this not inconsiderable programme was the appointment in 1936 of an additional Medical Officer who was posted to Maseru to relieve the Principal Medical Officer of much of the clinical work he had previously undertaken and so give him time for administration and organization.

The improvement in the financial position of Basutoland allowed an early start to be made in increasing the accommodation for Natives in the Government Hospitals, and in pursuance of a five years' plan the following additions have been made or provided for:—

(a) *Qacha's Nek Hospital* (1936-7).—The accommodation for Native patients has been increased from 12 to 32 beds, including the construction of two isolation wards of two beds each. A new operating theatre, laundry, sanitation and electric light were provided. The enlargement and rebuilding of this hospital were carried out at a cost of £2,151.

(b) *Mokhotlong Cottage Hospital* (1936-7).—As a temporary measure to provide sorely-needed accommodation for Native patients at this isolated outstation in the eastern mountains certain existing buildings were converted and equipped to provide eight beds including two in a new hut for isolation purposes. The District Surgeon (a Mosuto),

who was then in receipt of a retaining fee from Government, was appointed to be a full-time Medical Officer. The cost of converting the buildings and equipping the cottage hospital was £400. The estimates for the current year (1938-9) provide for new wards to increase the accommodation to 20 beds at an extra cost of £1,000.

(c) *Mafeteng Hospital* (1937-8).—New wards have been constructed to increase the accommodation for Native patients from 22 to 42 beds. Wide verandas have been provided for convalescents which will hold eight additional beds in an emergency. The cost of enlarging this hospital was £1,870.

(d) *Maseru Hospital Maternity Block* (1937-8).—This extension of the Maseru Hospital contains 16 beds, a labour ward and the usual offices. It was erected at a cost of £1,250 from a grant made by the Johannesburg Chamber of Mines.

(e) *Quthing Hospital* (1938).—This hospital has been rebuilt and enlarged to accommodate 26 beds instead of 12, including two isolation wards of two beds each. A new operating theatre, laundry and improved sanitation have been provided. Total cost £1,460.

(f) *Leribe Hospital* (1939-40).—Provision has been made in the draft estimates to increase the number of beds from 26 to 46. The new wards will have wide verandas which, as in the case of the Mafeteng Hospital, will hold eight additional beds in an emergency. The cost of enlarging this hospital is estimated at £1,700.

(g) *Teyateyaneng Hospital.*—This new hospital will be commenced in 1939. It will contain 24 beds for Native patients only and will cost £5,100 spread over two years.

As a result of re-arrangements and adjustments of existing accommodation and the extensions and alterations which have taken place the number of beds available for Native patients has been increased from 140 in 1935 to 240 at the present time. When the extensions to the Mokhotlong and Leribe Hospitals are completed and the Teyateyaneng Hospital is opened 296 beds will have been provided for Natives in Government Hospitals.

A new factor is introduced by the interest of Missions in medical work. In the last two years three Mission hospitals have been opened:—

(a) *Roma Mission Hospital* (1937).—Erected at the headquarters of the Roman Catholic Mission and providing 28 beds.

(b) *The Scott Hospital, Morija Mission* (1938).—Built and equipped by the benefaction of a local resident at the headquarters of the Paris Evangelical Mission to provide 26 beds.

(c) *The Paray Mission Hospital* (1938).—Built by the Roman Catholic Mission at Ntaote's village in the centre of the mountain area. This hospital provides 16 beds and is subsidised by the Basutoland Government to the extent of £200 per annum.

These three Mission hospitals have provided an additional 70 beds, making a total of 310 beds for Native patients; one for every 1,900 of the population as compared with one for every 4,000 at the time of the Commission's report.

In 1936 a dispensary was opened at Morija staffed by a Native dispenser and visited weekly by the Medical Officer, Maseru. It was discontinued in June, 1938, when the Scott Hospital was opened and is being moved to Masieng, the headquarters of the Paramount Chief, as soon as a suitable building can be provided.

Four trained Native nurses were appointed in 1937 and 1938. Three are stationed at the Maseru, Qacha's Nek and Mokhotlong Hospitals and one at the Leper Settlement. Ten probationer Native nurses are in training at the Maseru Hospital. Five of these have completed two years' training in general nursing and five one year's training. In their third and fourth years they will be trained in Midwifery and Child Welfare and will then be available for employment in Government Hospitals or village work. Accommodation for these probationers was provided at a cost of £750 from a grant from the Johannesburg Chamber of Mines. Consideration is now being given to the training of male subordinate medical staff to assist in the further development of out-dispensaries.

As stated above a Maternity Hospital and Child Welfare Clinic was erected and equipped at the Maseru Hospital. It was opened in April 1938 and by the 31st of December, 169 in-patients were treated. Of these there were 82 deliveries, the remaining cases being complications of pregnancy or labour. The Sister in Charge conducts a weekly ante-natal and post-natal clinic with an average attendance of 35 patients. African women are notoriously conservative in matters of this kind, therefore the institution may be said to have made an exceptionally good start. Now that the initial apprehension has diminished, attendances and admissions will increase rapidly.

The number of admissions of in-patients at Government Hospitals increased from 3,117 in 1934 to 4,434 in 1938. Out-patient attendances increased during the same period from

64,352 to 101,187. Operations have increased from 1,728 (411 major) in 1934 to 2,593 (907 major) in 1938. 6,048 injections for syphilis were given at Government Dispensaries in 1938.

Shelters for out-patients coming from a distance for treatment have been erected at the Qacha's Nek, Leribe, Mafeteng and Maseru Hospitals. These rest-houses, which consist of five rooms each and cost approximately £250 each to build, are a great convenience to natives who would otherwise either have to travel long distances daily or hire accommodation in nearby villages. It is proposed to provide similar shelters at the other Government Hospitals in the near future.

A real attack on venereal disease has been launched, assisted by wide propaganda including the distribution of pamphlets in Sesuto. Treatment is given free of charge at all Government stations and the Mission hospitals are supplied with drugs, etc., for similar free treatment. Treatment by injection is rapidly becoming popular among the people and at Maseru alone 1,500 injections were administered in 1938.

The incidence of Typhus Fever has been reduced from 1,491 cases reported in 1934 to two isolated outbreaks involving 11 people in 1938. Deverminising plant and bathing accommodation have been maintained at all Government stations and are extensively used by natives. In addition a portable plant has been devised and used most successfully in dealing with outbreaks in outlying areas.

In 1935 owing to a dense invasion of the lowlands by rats and other rodents a European officer trained in anti-plague measures was appointed with a Native staff. Not only was there the threat of plague but the rodents were destroying the ripening crops of the natives. An extensive campaign was carried out by the combined efforts of the Administration, the Medical and Agricultural Departments, and the Chiefs and people. A heavily infested area 150 miles long and from six to ten miles wide was practically cleared of rodents and an outbreak of plague (16 cases) which actually occurred in a village in the Mafeteng district in 1936 was promptly arrested. Since then to keep down the rodents in the fields and villages a regular distribution is made of poisoned wheat to be placed in the rat holes. Many thousands of bags of grain are now saved yearly from destruction, and no further cases of human plague have occurred.

In 1937-8 steps were first taken to safeguard village water supplies by preventing surface pollution and seepage. The method employed is to construct a small cement chamber over and around the "eye" of the spring and to lead the water by an iron pipe to a cement or concrete container from which a pure supply of water for drinking and domestic

purposes can be drawn. The average cost for each spring works out at about £2 and over 200 village water supplies have already been protected. This work is greatly appreciated by the villagers and is regarded as one of the most important public health measures yet instituted in Basutoland. Five hundred pounds per annum will be voted regularly until the work is completed.

Owing to an epidemic of smallpox in the Union of South Africa it was considered necessary to vaccinate the people of Basutoland. It was estimated that at least 200,000 had not been previously vaccinated and many others had probably lost immunity. From April to December, 1938, 376,000 persons have been vaccinated or re-vaccinated at a cost of £1,840.

Improvements in the sanitation of most of the Government stations have been effected, including the installation of a water-borne sewage scheme at the Maseru Hospital (which cost £1,406). The menace from house-flies at Maseru has been considerably reduced by the construction of "Baber" Fly Traps at suitable centres.

While the general nutrition of the Basuto has improved very appreciably the fact that cases of pellagra and scurvy were increasing was brought to notice. The evidence was that though the diet of the people was not deficient in quantity it was lacking in proteins and vitamins. Government has made and is making strenuous efforts to persuade the Basuto to alter an almost entirely maize diet to a more varied one. It was realised that Africans are conservative in matters of diet and propaganda through pamphlets, the press and the schools has been employed successfully.

The measures taken to increase the production of vegetables and fruit and to improve meat and milk supplies are described below under the headings "Agriculture" and "Live Stock and Animal Husbandry."

Recurrent expenditure on Medical and Sanitary services increased from £25,712 in 1933-4 to £30,078 in 1937-8. The revised Estimate for 1938-9 is £36,088 and the draft Estimates for 1939-40 provide for £34,138.

(v) Leper Settlement.

For a variety of reasons but principally because of the attitude of the Basuto and South Africa generally to lepers and leprosy it was not possible to carry out the recommendation of the Commission that most of the patients suffering from the neural type of leprosy should be discharged from the Botsabelo Settlement and that no new patients suffering from this type of the disease should be admitted. Recently, for

some unaccountable reason, a considerable number of neural cases at the Settlement have become cutaneous and therefore highly infectious. Had these cases been under village or domiciliary segregation they would have been foci of acute infection.

Surveys in accordance with the recommendations contained in the report of the Commission have been made in the highlands of the Qacha's Nek and Quthing districts and in the lowlands in the Mafeteng district, and indicate that there are few cases of long-standing leprosy in the country. Most of the cases brought to light by the surveys were of the early neural type and of less than twelve months duration. The incidence revealed by the surveys is two per mille in the highlands and ·2 per mille in the lowlands.

To increase the efficiency of the inspectorate system two more Native Leper Inspectors have been appointed, making a total of eight. The post of one European Staff Nurse at the Settlement has been abolished and another European Nurse who is retiring is being replaced by two trained African Nurses.

Expenditure on leprosy and the Leper Settlement has been reduced from £19,760 to £17,484 in 1937-38.

(vi) Native Education.

As pointed out by Sir Alan Pim in paragraph 181 of his report the main problem of Basutoland Native Education was one of finance. The position has steadily improved since that time and the deficit of £4,021 in the Education Fund's reserve balance has been converted to a surplus of £34,066 on the 31st of March, 1938.

Education Fund: Revenue and Expenditure, 1933-34 *to* 1937-38.

Year.	*Revenue (25 per cent. of Native Tax plus a levy of 3s. per taxpayer).*	*Expenditure.*	*Accumulated Balance.*
	£	£	£
1933–34 ...	34,163	45,758	Dr. 4,021
1934–35 ...	47,110	40,062	Cr. 3,048
1935–36 ...	51,493	40,533	14,008
1936–37 ...	56,172	47,088	23,092
1937–38 ...	62,424	51,450	34,066

With the expansion of the revenue of the Education Fund consequent upon the improvement in tax collections (the Fund is financed by a contribution of one quarter of the Native Tax plus a special Education Levy of 3s. per taxpayer) the preparation of the Estimates for 1937-38 was a convenient time to consider the education policy of the country. A remarkable measure of success had been achieved in regard to elementary education

and 70 per cent. of the children of school-going age were actually attending school. For any higher education, however, children were compelled to go outside Basutoland, to Fort Hare or to High Schools in the Cape or Natal at considerable expense to their parents. At this time, too, the South African Native College at Fort Hare, for which bursaries were available from the Basutoland Education Fund, came to a decision not to admit any students who had not matriculated. The significance of this was that Basuto students who wanted to go beyond the Junior Certificate to Matriculation and to higher education levels could not do so in their own country except by private study which was generally impossible. An important storey in the educational structure was entirely lacking or as a member of the Basutoland Council put it " We had a building without a roof ". It was recalled that when the proposal for the Education Levy was before the Basutoland Council a promise was given that " Ultimately the Government will start, as soon as funds permit, an Institution of its own for vocational training ".

The necessity for a high school which could take students up to matriculation was obvious and it was felt that such a school would also fill a very urgent need by providing a place where the sons of Chiefs could receive suitable education in their own country side by side with their own people and avoiding the danger that they might grow up out of touch and out of sympathy with Basutoland and the Basuto.

The proposal received the support of the High Commissioner, was endorsed by the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies and approved by the Secretary of State. The High School which is being built and equipped at an initial capital cost of £10,200 will open early in 1939 with a full roll of students.

Two new Government Intermediate Schools have been built at a cost of £4,150 at Leribe and Mohale's Hoek bringing the number of these institutions from three to five. The Maseru Intermediate School has been considerably enlarged in buildings and staff, and additional teachers' quarters have been erected at three schools.

The grants in aid to Missions for elementary education and training institutions have been increased from £38,482 in 1934-35 to £48,710 in 1938-39 and the 10 per cent. cut in teachers' salaries was restored by the Missions in 1936. The number of teachers with higher qualifications employed by Missions is increasing and the total number of schools has increased from 849 in 1934 to 873 in 1938. During the same period Mission Intermediate Schools increased in number from 37 to 45. Grants in aid have been made to selected schools belonging to Missionary Societies not hitherto assisted where such schools are doing sound educational work and do not overlap with other aided schools.

The total enrolment of pupils has increased from 74,353 in 1934 to 82,808 in 1938. The average attendance has increased from 49,861 in 1934 to 61,424 in 1938 or from 66 per cent. to 75 per cent. Enrolments in Standard Six have almost doubled in the period, and the results in the Education Department's Standard Six examination have shown a steadily rising percentage of passes.

The number of post-Junior Certificate bursaries has been considerably increased. In 1934 one was awarded annually, now eight are available every year, six tenable for two years on the result of the Junior Certificate examination and two tenable for three years on the result of the Senior Certificate examination. The number available on the result of the Standard Six examination has been doubled from six to twelve annually and a new annual bursary to one of the Agricultural Schools in the Union has been established by the generosity of a Maseru firm of merchants.

Expenditure on direction and inspection is met from general revenue and is not charged against the Education Fund. The staff of the Department has been increased by the appointment of a third European Inspector, a fifth Native Supervisor and a permanent Native Clerk. Regulations regarding the constitution and functions of school committees have been promulgated and committees of parents have been formed in certain areas for Mission schools on the lines of the Government Intermediate Schools Committees. The Board of Advice on Education has been strengthened by the inclusion of the Government Secretary and the Director of Agriculture.

Much has been done by the Department of Education to secure better adapted education. The Elementary Vernacular Syllabus has been completely revised and the Intermediate Syllabus is in process of revision to bring them both in line with the principles laid down in the Colonial Office Memorandum on the Education of African Communities. To meet the distinctive needs of girl pupils in the intermediate standards a special housecraft intermediate course has been introduced. The department has defined and standardised a course for the training of girls as Kindergarten teachers and in 1939 five centres will be giving this training. A new two-year course for Elementary Vernacular Teachers (men) has been devised and established having a strong emphasis on the equipment of these teachers for community service and influence. The practical and manual side of the training given to students at the Teachers' Training Institutions has been adapted to meet local needs.

Regulations for Boarding Establishments connected with schools have been drawn up and brought into force with the willing co-operation of the Missions concerned.

The various series of Sesuto Readers in use are being completely rewritten on up to date lines. A quarterly Magazine for teachers has been issued by the Department and is proving very useful.

There is a steady increase in the number of school gardens and the Education Department is co-operating with the Medical and Agricultural Departments in their efforts to improve and vary the diet of the Basuto by the greater use of milk, vegetables and fruit.

The enlarged activities and carefully planned innovations described above are contributing to the wider spread of sound education and making the educational system more effective for real progress throughout the Territory.

The Lerotholi Technical School was dealt with under a separate heading in the report of the Commission as it was not then under the Education Department. It has now been brought under the control of the Director of Education who was Director of the Lerotholi Technical School from 1931 to 1935, and the Principal of the School works under his guidance and supervision. This administrative change has strengthened the work of the School and enlarged its influence. A special evening class for apprentices in their last year has been started, designed to help them in such matters as costing, quoting prices, managing a business, dealing with employers or customers and keeping accounts. An increasing number of craftsmen trained in the School have been setting up their own businesses in Basutoland.

The Agricultural Course of the School has been improved under the advice of the Director of Agriculture and two out of the three winners of the new Annual Agricultural Bursary previously referred to have been boys from the School.

The Lerotholi Technical School is financed from the general revenues of the Territory and not from the Native Education Fund. Expenditure has increased from £5,515 in 1933-4 to £7,120 in 1937-8 but the net cost to Government has only increased by £100 as the revenue from the work turned out by the School has risen from £2,935 to £4,440 in the same period. The enrolment of apprentices is at its maximum and a good many applicants have to be refused.

(vii) Soil Conservation.

Soil erosion was no new phenomenon in the lowlands of Basutoland, but it had assumed threatening proportions at the time of the Commission's visit. The main cause was the rapid run-off of storm-waters from the lower slopes of the hills, and from roads and paths, resulting in the loss of thousands of tons of good soil by surface wash from the hill-sides and fields and causing deep " dongas " or gullies which menaced ten per cent. of the arable land. Even worse than the actual loss of soil was

the effect on the surrounding arable and grass areas by the drying out of all moisture from the soil and sub-soil by seepage into the dongas, most of which were from ten to fifteen feet deep, some as deep as twenty feet and others forty to fifty feet deep.

The Commission regarded the removal of the threat of erosion as the first essential preliminary condition to the development of the economic resources of the country, and recommended the financing of an extensive scheme for dealing with erosion in the lowlands. An application for funds met with favourable consideration by the Colonial Development Advisory Committee and a loan of £160,233 was granted from the Colonial Development Fund and became available on the 1st of October, 1936.

Meanwhile, active steps were being taken to prepare the way and to educate Native opinion to accept the anti-erosion scheme which would involve the disturbance of agricultural routine by the cutting of contour banks through cultivated fields and pasture and an alteration in the method of cultivation so that all the ploughing is done on the contour, parallel to the contour banks. A strong lead was given by the Paramount Chief who requested that anti-erosion work and any other development scheme should be started at his own headquarters as an example to his people. Demonstration work was started on a small scale in 1935 at Matsieng (the Paramount Chief's headquarters) and on the Government reserve at Maseru. Large-scale works commenced early in 1937 after the necessary staff had been engaged and provision made for their housing and the requisite tools and equipment purchased. The conservation works consist of contour banks of earth, stone and wire weirs, earth dams and other incidental works according to local requirements. The contour banks are about fifteen inches in height above the original ground level and twelve feet wide at the base, with shallow furrows on their lower and upper sides, three feet and two feet wide respectively. As the name implies, they are built along the contour and their function is to catch and hold the water running down from above, thus checking its speed and therefore its eroding influence and causing a large proportion of it to be absorbed into the land. The banks are constructed on a slight grade (usually 1 in 300 in the most suitable) so that the water collecting in the furrows above them flows slowly to a gap in the bank or to one end where it is made to overflow, if possible into an existing stream bed or on to a rocky place where its eroding effect will be negligible. The vertical drop between the contour banks is varied to suit different conditions of soil, type of catchment and slope and also varies between cultivated land and pasture. It ranges from 4½ feet to as much as 1$\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

When surplus water cannot be discharged into a stream or on to rocks the overflow is led on to pasture lands where the grass offers the best protection to the soil. Should the over-flow be

taken by a donga, and no rocky place be available for the water to run over, a " grass inlet " is made to prevent the spreading of the gulley. This consists of a turfed grass slope from 1 in 3 to 1 in 7 in grade down which the water flows into the main channel.

Stone and wire weirs are occasionally used to divert some of the flood water in dongas and turn it on to adjacent pasture, or other land which is thus materially benefited. Excess flood water which passes the weir is held up lower down in the gully by contour banks and small earth dams.

Earth dams are constructed as an integral part of the contour system in certain areas at the junction of watercourses and are a very important factor in slowing up and retaining surface waters.

Other incidental works include the strengthening of dam banks and contour banks by planting with grass, aloes or, where the banks run through cultivated land, lucerne and fruit trees. They also include the planting of trees to hasten the silting up of dongas and to protect badly eroded watershed areas, and the fencing of plantations and dam banks to protect them from damage from stock.

Up to the end of 1938 a total of 27,556 acres had been terrace-banked, and the land below these terrace-banked areas was also reclaimed. The total length of terrace bank (contour banks) constructed is 2,937,577 yards. Forty-nine dams have been constructed and 171,958 fruit and forest trees have been planted.

The results of these works are already spectacular and greatly appreciated by the Basuto. Persuasion and argument are no longer necessary. The sight of once bare slopes now carrying a luxuriant growth of grass, old dongas silting up and grassing over and new ones checked in their infancy, springs flowing with increased strength and dams everywhere for thirsty cattle, have convinced the most sceptical.

A large scale rotational or deferred grazing experiment was commenced at Maseru in 1935 and the indications are that a three piece system for village grazing areas will give good results. More stock can be carried on the same area and the pastures rehabilitated.

Most of the stock in Basutoland was and is depastured in the mountain areas and although soil erosion was not present to the same alarming extent as in the lowlands, the encroachment of bitter Karroo bush following the drought years of 1932 and 1933 was becoming a source of anxiety. Field erosion was also occurring to some extent on the cultivated slopes and along the course of the rough bridle paths. The Commission advocated the appointment of an ecologist to study the position in the

highlands at an estimated cost of £3,000 and subsequently a grant of £3,070 was made from the Colonial Development Fund to cover the cost of an Ecological Survey. The principal objects of the survey were (*a*) to ascertain the best system of pasture management and livestock distribution in order to preserve the pastures in the interests of the livestock and to prevent erosion and (*b*) to work out a practical system for application to the cultivated fields on the mountain slopes to prevent their destruction by erosion.

The survey was completed in 1937 and the report published in 1938. The first set of accurate, simple and well-designed pasture and grazing experiments recommended by the Survey to ascertain the stock-carrying capacity of the mountain area and the best method for checking the encroachment of the Karroo bush have been laid down. A simple form of rotational grazing and pasture management was advocated for village areas and for the larger "cattle-post" areas. Recommendations for cultivation in the mountain valleys and slopes included the best type of crops (peas, wheat, etc.) to provide cover for the soil, the introduction of the "strip" method of cultivation and correct ploughing of the land along the contours instead of up and down the slopes. Action has been taken with a view to gradually introducing the measures recommended and the construction of a system of properly graded and drained bridle-paths is now being undertaken by the Public Works Department. Particular attention is being paid to drainage so as to prevent erosion from taking place.

(viii) **Agriculture.**

A long-range agricultural scheme was prepared with the principal objects of (*a*) the improvement and maintenance of the health of the people by the use of more vegetables, fruit and animal products and (*b*) bringing about an improvement in crop production and so increasing the purchasing power of the people to enable them to secure more than the bare necessities of life. The last object could only be attained by the selection and exploitation of those branches of farming which are well suited to Basutoland and likely to give the best monetary returns to the producer over a period of years.

The first part of this programme, the provision of a more varied diet, is being partly carried out by the establishment of terraced vegetable and fruit gardens by the villagers. During 1935 a number of demonstration gardens were established, each terraced as a direct anti-erosion measure and provided with a small dam or other water supply and a manure-pit where compost can be made. These small, well-worked gardens produce an abundance of vegetables and fruit to replace or supplement the

standard crops of maize or millet as articles of food and, from the first, were very popular. In 1936-7 the number of gardens had increased to 837 and by the end of 1938 to 3,000. This number includes only those gardens which are properly terraced and provided with watering facilities and compost pits. Annual competitions are held for the best gardens and arouse great interest. It is hoped in a few years to increase the number of standard gardens to 20,000 when they will have become established as part of the normal agricultural practice of the Basuto. The scheme has been financed throughout from Basutoland Revenue.

Crop improvement in the long range scheme included the adoption of better cultural methods, the fertilizing or manuring of crops, the use of better seed and the production of reliable seed in Basutoland, and lastly a greater variety of crops for reasons of human health, soil fertility, and the prevention of erosion.

To find the most suitable crop varieties for Basutoland an experimental station was started in 1935 at Maseru. Seed multiplication plots were started at seven of the Government stations in 1937 for the further testing of selected varieties under field conditions and for the multiplication of seeds and plants required for promoting crop improvement or for use in connection with the anti-erosion works. The results secured at the Maseru station, particularly with regard to strong wheats, early maturing Kaffir Corn (sorghum), grasses and trees, have been of very great value to the Territory. The money for this work has been provided from general revenue.

Native crop production figures indicate that the amount of land brought under cultivation is steadily increasing and that the production per acre is improving but it is too early to say definitely whether the increase per acre is permanent or due to seasonal variation. A clearer picture will be available in a few years and in considering the statistics of production given below it must be remembered that 1937 was an exceptionally good season, 1936 and 1938 were about equal to one another in rainfall and distribution of rain, and were below the average.

Statistics of Agricultural Production, 1934-8.

(*in bags of 200 lb.*)

Crop.	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1937.*	*1938.*
Maize	405,974	513,663	491,114	1,135,983	873,750
Sorghum	202,987	194,498	184,179	297,117	197,812
Wheat	152,240	259,331	245,572	383,645	257,812
Peas, Beans and other Crops ...	50,746	64,833	61,393	148,558	109,218
Total—Bags ...	811,947	1,032,325	982,258	1,965,303	1,438,592

The Native Agricultural Associations which increased from 59 in 1935 to 101 in 1938 are a great aid to organised crop and garden crop cultivation. During 1938, 746 lectures and demonstrations were given by members of the Agricultural staff and the total attendances were 26,000. Forty-one tons of superphosphate were used by natives as a fertiliser in addition to kraal manure, ash and compost.

The statistical return given above clearly shows the increase in crops other than the standard crops. The largest increase has been in the production of peas. Peas and wheat are crops of relatively high food and cash value, and are specially good anti-erosion crops owing to the cover provided for the soil during the rains. The production of these crops is therefore encouraged in every way.

For the first time in the history of the country, field crop competitions were held in 1938. Two hundred and forty-two fields were entered for the competitions and the crops and seeds produced were excellent. Tillage and cultivation were generally good throughout. Good entries were also obtained for the various agricultural shows held throughout the country in 1938.

Produce markets have been established in five centres since the end of 1936 and are well patronised. The produce brought in finds a ready sale to natives and, to a lesser extent, Europeans.

(ix) **Live Stock and Animal Husbandry.**

With the same main objects in view and linked up with the main policy of agricultural improvement it was desired to improve the cattle of the country for beef, draught and milking purposes, to restore the horse-breeding industry and to breed mules for transport purposes, and to improve the class of sheep, the quality and marketing of wool.

Assistance for the live-stock improvement scheme was provided from the Colonial Development Fund to the extent of a grant of £640 for the fencing of bull-camps. A sum of £2,390 was offered, to include the purchase of stud bulls and horses, but the improvement of the financial position made it possible for the Basutoland Government to meet these expenses from ordinary revenue. The object of the bull-camps was to provide enclosed areas to which native cows could be brought for service by the imported Government stud bulls. The fencing of the bull-camps was completed in 1937 and in the same year, but late in the breeding season, 21 Afrikander and four Sussex stud bulls were purchased by Government and placed at stud in the camps. Although the season was far advanced 438 cows were served. Early in 1938 a further 38

Afrikander and six Sussex bulls were purchased to supplement the work of the bull-camps and were placed at stud on loan to cattle owning natives. Steps were taken to prevent the importation of undesirable breeding stock and, during 1937 and 1938, 4,309 undesirable bulls were emasculated by the Agricultural and Veterinary staff and many more were castrated by the natives themselves.

Anthrax has been almost eradicated as a result of universal inoculation in 1936 and 1937, and inoculations are now confined to the few areas which remain infected.

The cattle census figures show that in spite of good years, with no epidemics, good calving seasons and good grazing and the fact that imports are almost double the exports, the cattle population is not increasing rapidly. This indicates that the people are consuming more meat to the advantage of their health and is an important contribution to the over-stocking and erosion problem.

Cattle Census Returns.

Year.	*No. of Cattle.*
1935	352,331
1936	414,872
1937	418,921
1938	434,990

As a result of the drought and depression years from 1932 to 1934 the country is considerably under-stocked at present, and the time is therefore favourable to improving the quality of the flocks and herds during the building-up period. An indirect result of this improvement in cattle and sheep is that stock owners are assured of the same return from a smaller number of high class animals as from a large number of inferior stock, and the denudation caused by trampling and over-grazing is avoided.

Stock theft was such a menace to the stock owner at the time of the Commission's visit that it was considered by Sir Alan Pirn to be the second immediately urgent problem standing in the way of economic development. The serious character of the position left no room for doubt, and the stock-owners were desperate.

Energetic measures have been undertaken during the past three years and, as a result, this form of crime has become rare. The large organizations of stock thieves and receivers have been broken up and dispersed. The attitude of the villagers towards stock thieves has undergone a change and they are no longer terrorized and dominated by them. This was achieved by the action of the Chiefs themselves headed by the Paramount Chief, and by strong and frequent patrols consisting of police and Chiefs' representatives who periodically traverse even

the most isolated parts of the mountain area and keep a close check on the movements of the thieves, most of whom are now known to the authorities. The villagers are no longer afraid to give evidence against the thieves, because of the protection afforded by the patrols in their midst, and the stamping out of the nests of criminals which flourished on this crime. The co-operation between the Chiefs and the police has perhaps been the chief factor in checking stock theft, but the change in public opinion towards the thieves has had a marked effect. Stock thieves now bring certain trouble to their villages and are not popular heroes, with meat to give away, as in the past.

During the year 1936 an enquiry was made by the Department into the origin and history of the Basuto pony. The causes of the decline of the once famous Basuto pony were apparent, and with the knowledge gained a horse improvement scheme was launched in 1937.

A number of well-bred stallions of various types were introduced and placed at stud at all the horse breeding centres of the country and steps were taken to emasculate weedy and otherwise undesirable stallions. Small fees are charged to the owners of mares sent to stud but the horse-breeders maintaining the Government stallions are allowed free service. Registers are kept of the progeny of these stallions and the best of them will be retained in the country as breeding stock.

All funds for this purpose have been provided from ordinary revenue and the scheme includes the provision of Catalonian Donkey Jacks for mule breeding. In 1937, 19 horse stallions (2 Arabs, 1 Percheron and 16 thoroughbreds) and 5 Catalonian Donkey Jacks were introduced into Basutoland. During 1938 13 thoroughbred stallions and 13 Catalonian Donkey Jacks were purchased. Two stallions previously imported stand at stud at the central stud stables at Maseru. The 50 sires imported in 1937 and 1938 are standing to stud, as described in the preceding paragraph, with leading breeders throughout the country and in 1939 it will be possible to give the first breeding results. The sires are being very well cared for by their custodians and there is no doubt that in the course of time the Basuto pony will recover its former fame.

The Veterinary Department, at the request of native owners, castrated 626 equines in 1937 and 2,120 in 1938.

The census figures show a steady increase in equines:—

Year.	*Horses.*	*Asses.*	*Mules.*
1935	75,701	18,911	986
1936	84,650	22,361	1,275
1937	85,017	22,766	1,068
1938	87,788	25,314	1,076

It is proposed to restrict the number of asses to 30,000 owing to the manner in which they destroy pasture and so assist

erosion. If their numbers increased too greatly it would mean the displacement of more valuable stock in the shape of horses, mules and cattle.

The number of sheep and goats decreased from 3,834,522 in 1931 to 2,000,120 in 1934. The decrease continued and the census figures showed 1,717,826 in 1935, and 1,674,964 in 1936. The rate of decrease was arrested in 1936, and 1937 showed a small increase to 1,695,325. The figures for sheep only are:—

Year.	*Number of Sheep.*
1931	2,828,700
1934	1,469,199
1935	1,285,596
1936	1,264,349
1937	1,283,394
1938	1,470,361

The fifty per cent. decrease from 1931 to 1934 could be accounted for by deaths during the drought years of 1932 and 1933 and by reductions by flock owners owing to the small price of wool, but the subsequent decrease was found to be due to intestinal parasites. Compulsory dosing was introduced on the 1st of April, 1936, and in that year the tide was turned and the rate of decrease was arrested. In 1937 for the first time for six years there was an increase.

There is no doubt that the introduction of this compulsory monthly dosing scheme has saved the sheep industry from extinction. In 1938, 11,518,613 doses were administered and the ravages of internal parasites have been overcome.

The country has been free from scab for some years and with the elimination of internal parasites the way is clear for the improvement of the merino sheep and wool industry. In 1935 there were approximately 19,000 half-bred or " bastard " rams in the Territory which were destroying its most valuable industry, namely, Merino Wool. These rams were emasculated and their progeny dealt with in the same manner with the result that in 1936 only 20 " bastard " rams were discovered. From 1935 onwards a number of high class Merino rams have been imported annually and resold to native flock owners at cost price. The total number so imported to the end of 1938 was 1,748. The lambs from these rams are a vast improvement on the original stock, and the scheme will be continued until all the sheep in Basutoland are high class Merino stock. This trading scheme is being financed by Basutoland's share of the wool-levy instituted by the Union Government and collected at the coastal ports.

During 1935 and 1936 many wool classing experiments and demonstrations were carried out to test the attitude of the natives

and the trading community towards a project to class wool in a suitable manner to meet the requirements of the world's markets. The results were encouraging and a grant of £2,800 was provided from the Colonial Development Fund for wool classing sheds and equipment. Eight sheds were erected in suitable centres in 1937 and eight sets of portable equipment were secured for demonstrations at outlying villages. Additional sums were provided from Basutoland revenue to augment the number of portable sheds and to pay for the additional native staff required annually for training as wool classers.

In 1937 the wool from 49,629 sheep shorn at the sheds and portable outfits was classed. The total weight of wool handled was 250,645 lbs. As the shearing season extends roughly from October to March, 1938 figures are not yet available (February, 1939).

The results achieved in this new undertaking by a limited staff are far beyond expectation and the sorted wool earns a premium of from ½d. per lb. to the advantage of the sheep-owners.

When the quality of Basutoland wool has been stabilised by the elimination of hairy sheep and the general adoption of wool sorting and classing the recommendation in paragraph 281 of the Commission's report that a sample of 200 bales should be sent annually direct to London and Bradford to stimulate demand for Basutoland wool will be carried out by Government. It is felt that a year or two's delay will be to the advantage of the wool industry.

To supplement the milk supplies of villages, particularly when the cattle are grazing in the mountain areas, Government is encouraging the breeding of Milch goats. The Swiss type has been selected as the most suitable, and a stud is now being purchased.

Another innovation is the introduction of public auction sales of cattle and other livestock with a view to giving the native producer the best prices for his products. Permanent sale pens have been erected in 1938 from general revenue and the first organised sales will be held early in 1939.

It will be seen from the foregoing that the two main requirements to improve and vary the diet of the Basuto and to improve their spending power and standard of living have been steadily kept in sight in the execution of the long range agricultural and animal husbandry plan laid down in 1935 and that a considerable measure of success has been achieved. The full results will not be seen for some years but there is no doubt that the resources of the people have been greatly improved on the lines recommended by Sir Alan Pim (quoted on page 5 of this memorandum) and that they will continue to improve.

(x) Public Works.

The recommendations of the Commission were necessarily limited by the financial position of the Territory which was then in a critical condition.

The roads were described as being " on the whole of a fairly good South African standard " although " even the main and secondary roads were still very deficient in bridges and permanent river crossings ". Since 1935 the roads have been adequately maintained and improvements have been made to many of the secondary roads which run towards the interior of the country. Government has also opened a new section of about 13 miles of mountain motor road from White Hill to Sekake's in the Qacha's Nek district. Since 1935 the policy has been more and more to reduce the difference between the standard of main and " feeder " roads by improving the latter. As a result the 22 miles of mountain road to Sehlabathebe is now open to motor transport in all reasonable weather conditions. An appreciable improvement to the feeder roads on the western side of the country has also taken place. The average expenditure on maintenance of roads during the past three years has been £13,000.

The old system whereby all expenditure on roads and bridges was loosely charged to " Maintenance " was discontinued in 1935. It was found impossible to check maintenance costs if the cost of such construction works as cement drifts and low level bridges were included. Such improvements are now provided for in the Estimates under the Schedules of Extraordinary Expenditure.

Two border bridges at Caledon Poort and Makhaleng have been completed and opened for traffic. The work was carried out by the Union Government's Public Works Department at a cost of £19,000 of which Basutoland paid one half.

Ten reinforced concrete low-level bridges and causeways have been constructed since 1936 on the Basutoland road system. Six major donga crossings have been built and many smaller ones have been permanently strengthened.

Road-side erosion first received the attention of the Public Works Department in 1933 but since 1935 the majority of the road-side dongas have been stopped or reclaimed. In areas where contour work has not yet been done as part of the general anti-erosion scheme the dongas are dammed and the road drains are carried across the dongas to the non-eroded ground beyond. All such work is done in the closest association with the anti-soil erosion officers.

Sir Alan Pim's recommendation that regular allotments should be made to District Officers to enable them to maintain the more

difficult sections of the existing bridle paths was put into effect in 1936 when £1,000 was allocated for this purpose. Since then annual grants of £1,000 were made and a great improvement effected, particularly in the Qacha's Nek district and sub-district.

But it was obvious that the most urgent need of Basutoland transport was the construction of an adequate system of bridle paths or pack trails to connect the mountain areas with existing roads. The mountain areas comprise three-quarters of the whole territory and the almost total absence of any reasonable means of communication to or within these areas was a grave and serious handicap to any form of administration or development. In the greater part of the year it was almost impossible to evacuate any produce, and revenue suffered accordingly. The state of the existing trails and the suffering of the pack animals using them was vividly described in the report of the Commission.

So, in 1937 an officer of the Public Works Department carried out a comprehensive reconnaissance survey of the main bridle paths of the territory. He estimated that an expenditure of £15,500 would be required to construct 1,670 miles of properly graded paths over a period of approximately three years. The necessary funds were provided from Basutoland revenue and construction commenced early in January, 1938. Very good progress has been made in this work which is considered by many to be the most important development work yet undertaken in Basutoland. The worst passes have already been surmounted at a grade of 8° or 1 in 7 and the nightmare struggles of pack animals over boulder strewn mountains are already a thing of the past.

The reorganization of the Administrative and Police services as separate units required the building of additional office accommodation in several Government stations. There were also insistent demands for more adequate post office accommodation in many parts of the country. At Qacha's Nek a modern Post Office building was provided at a cost of £1,000. A large office for the Native staff forms part of this building and a rearrangement of the accommodation at the central Government Office has resulted in the Administrative, Police and Post Office staffs being suitably housed.

At Teyateyaneng it is proposed to construct separate offices for the Police, thereby providing increased accommodation for the Post Office.

At Maseru many new public buildings have been constructed, chiefly for the Medical and Agricultural Departments. These are described in detail later in this section.

At Mohale's Hoek a new Police Office has been provided for in the 1939-40 Estimates.

New Government Offices are being built at the Mokhotlong sub-station.

Since 1935 it has been necessary to provide increased office and housing accommodation for the Agricultural Department in consequence of its expansion and of the extra staff required for the anti-erosion works. These include a new office building in Maseru costing £575, a Veterinary Clinic, Stud Stables and Government Pack-horse Stables at Maseru costing £1,200. These were a charge against Basutoland revenue. In addition accommodation has been provided for the anti-erosion staff at a cost of £9,100 from the grant for Anti-erosion work. Two new houses were built and five houses were purchased which required considerable additions and repairs.

In addition the following quarters have been constructed or are under construction for European officials: Quarters for the Assistant District Commissioner at the mountain sub-station of Mokhotlong; quarters for the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Butha Buthe; a new house for the Postmaster at Butha Buthe; three new quarters for Government officials at Maseru and two new quarters, one at Mafeteng and the other at Qacha's Nek. Two houses have been purchased, one at Maseru and the other at Mohale's Hoek.

On the subject of the housing of Native staff the Commission's report (page 132) stated " the Native quarters at Mokhotlong are very bad, those at Mafeteng inadequate and there are none at Mohale's Hoek." It had been represented to the Commission that " more accommodation should be provided generally " and the Commission reported that " it is undoubtedly true that the standards of accommodation of 30 years ago no longer satisfy the Native officials with their generally higher standard of living ". Sir Alan Pim realised that with the exception of Mokhotlong, which was urgent, nothing could be done until the arrival of better times.

A considerable building programme of Native staff quarters has been carried on in the past four years. At Mokhotlong 14 two-roomed Native quarters and two three-roomed quarters have been built. At Mohale's Hoek eight cottages each containing two living rooms and a kitchen have been provided. At Qacha's Nek six two-roomed cottages and a larger house for the police sergeant have been constructed, and at Teyateyaneng four three-roomed cottages are being built. A total sum of £3,000 has been expended on the housing of Native staff and it is intended to continue with this work by the allocation of substantial sums annually.

The conditions at the Border Police Posts in the mountainous districts of Qacha's Nek and Quthing (not visited by the Commission) were very bad. Accommodation for the men and stabling for their horses were quite inadequate. Considerable

improvements including new stables have been made and the detachments at these isolated posts have now adequate accommodation. New buildings for two border police posts in the lowlands consisting of quarters, offices and stables were constructed in 1937 at a cost of £500.

In addition to the above, two comfortable cottages for senior Native officials at Leribe have been purchased and a group of cottages and rondavels at Quthing were purchased in 1938 for the Native staff.

Most of the work carried out for the Medical Department has already been described in another section of this memorandum but it is summarized below to complete the Public Works picture.

The Qacha's Nek Hospital was practically rebuilt in 1936 when the ward accommodation was doubled, a modern operation theatre provided, together with an isolation block, laundry, store rooms and an electric light installation. Cost £2,151.

The Native ward accommodation at the Mafeteng Hospital was doubled in 1937-8 and roomy verandahs for convalescent patients were added at an inclusive cost of £1,870.

The Quthing Hospital has been enlarged, ward accommodation doubled and a new operating theatre, isolation wards and laundry provided. Cost £1,460.

A Cottage Hospital was provided at Mokhotlong three years ago by converting existing buildings. A more comprehensive scheme is being carried out in 1938-9 at a cost of £1,000.

A Maternity Hospital has been constructed in the grounds of the Maseru General Hospital at a cost of £1,250.

During 1939 the accommodation of the Leribe Hospital will be doubled and a start made with the construction of a new hospital at Teyateyaneng.

Dispensary shelters consisting each of five or six rooms have been built at Qacha's Nek, Mafeteng, Leribe and Maseru at a cost of £1,000.

Huts for the temporary accommodation of lepers have been constructed near the hospitals at Leribe, Quthing, Mokhotlong and Maseru.

Quarters for Native Nurses have been provided at Maseru (for probationers) and at Qacha's Nek and Leribe.

The Maseru Hospital has had a water-borne sewage system installed at a cost of £1,050. A system for the Mafeteng Hospital costing £450 is being constructed.

Each year a number of Baber fly-traps are being erected at police stables and other centres in Maseru. The expenditure to date is approximately £250.

An important scheme was launched in 1937 to enclose and protect village springs from contamination throughout the Territory.

As stated elsewhere in this memorandum when discussing progress with regard to Education, extensive building operations for a High School were put in hand early in 1938. The buildings approaching completion include the main school building; the boys' boarding-house with three large dormitories, dining-room, kitchen, sick-room, etc.; the Headmaster's house, the Assistant Master's house and two Native teachers' houses. The cost of these buildings including all equipment and an electric light installation is £10,500.

During the present year it is proposed to add a library, museum, a European house for the Matron and two more Native teachers' houses.

New Government Intermediate Schools and Native teachers' houses were built at Leribe in 1936 and at Mohale's Hoek in 1938 at a cost of £2,000 and £2,200 respectively.

The Maseru Intermediate School was enlarged in 1937 at a cost of about £800. Additional houses for Native teachers are being built at the Leribe, Matsieng and Mohale's Hoek Intermediate Schools.

Various other small buildings have been erected from time to time such as accommodation for witnesses attending the Subordinate Courts, cottages for visiting Chiefs, store-rooms, Dutch barns, etc., etc.

A rest-house for Europeans on the Sani Pass will shortly be completed. This is the first of such buildings in the mountain areas but it is expected that in years to come other rest-houses will be found necessary for travelling officials.

As a part of the bridle path construction scheme provision is being made for shelters for travelling natives at stages along the main paths.

The recommendation of the Commission that the water supplies at Quthing and Mafeteng should be improved has been carried into effect. In addition during the past four years the water supplies at several other stations have been enlarged to meet the demands due to the rapid expansion of the Government's social and educational services. The record is as follows: Water boring, erection of pumping plant, etc., at Quthing, cost £960: Erection of pumping plant, rising main and new reservoir at Mafeteng, cost £970: New borehole and pumping plant at Butha Buthe, cost £235: New reservoir, water meters etc. at Leribe, cost £700: A modern deep well pump at the Leper Settlement costing £230. Provision has been made for the installation of water meters at Mafeteng and Quthing but the work has been delayed through the lack of staff.

Large proposals to augment the water supplies of Maseru at an estimated cost of between £9,000 and £10,000 are now being put in hand.

(xi) Geological Survey.

Towards the end of 1938 a Geologist seconded from Tanganyika Territory commenced a Geological Survey of the country. The work is expected to take at least a year to accomplish and the cost is £1,560. Although the indications are that there are no vast deposits of mineral wealth in Basutoland it is hoped that workable seams of coal may be found which would replace cattle manure as fuel and so benefit the fields. In any case it is desirable to ascertain as accurately as possible the mineral resources of the country if only to set at rest the vague stories which have circulated in the past of large treasures locked up in the mountains of Basutoland. The survey is being carried out with the full agreement of that enlightened native ruler, the Paramount Chief of Basutoland, who has done a very great deal to assist in the progress made since 1935.

APPENDIX II.

Publications relating to Basutoland.

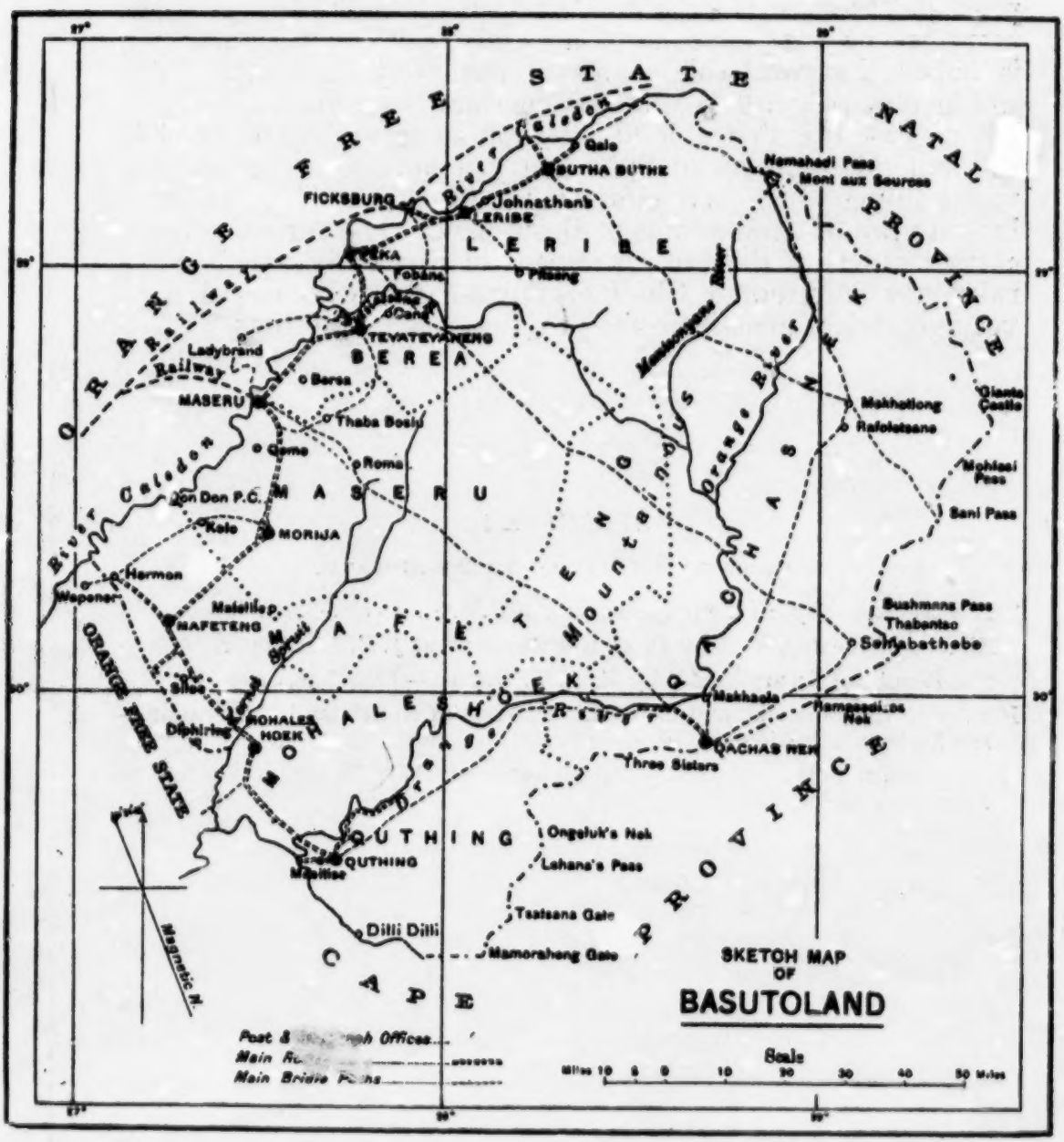
" The Basutos " by Sir Godfrey Lagden, K.C.M.G., 2 vols.—Hutchinson.

" History of the Basuto " by D. F. Ellenberger and J. C. Macgregor.

" The Basuto of Basutoland " by E. A. T. Dutton—Jonathan Cape.

Report on the Financial and Economic Position of Basutoland (Cmd. 4907)—His Majesty's Stationery Office . . ..

An Ecological Survey of the Mountain Area of Basutoland, 1938. (Crown Agents for Colonies).



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Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC POSITION OF NORTHERN RHODESIA

Report of the Commission [Colonial No. 145] 7s. (7s. 6d.)

LABOUR CONDITIONS IN NORTHERN RHODESIA

Report by Major G. St. J. Orde Browne, O.B.E.
[Colonial No. 150] 2s. (2s. 3d.)

NYASALAND. FINANCIAL POSITION AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

Report of Commission [Colonial No. 152] 10s. (10s. 6d.)

RHODESIA-NYASALAND ROYAL COMMISSION

Report [Cmd. 5949] 7s. 6d. (7s. 11d.)

LABOUR CONDITIONS IN THE WEST INDIES

Report by Major G. St. J. Orde Browne, O.B.E.
[Cmd. 6070] 3s. 6d. (3s. 10d.)

THE SYSTEM OF APPOINTMENT IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND THE COLONIAL SERVICES

Report of Committee [Cmd. 3554 (1930)] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

LEAVE AND PASSAGE CONDITIONS FOR THE COLONIAL SERVICE

Report of Committee [Cmd. 4730 (1934)] 9d. (10d.)

PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF OFFICERS IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, AND COLONIAL PROVIDENT FUNDS

Report of Committee [Cmd. 5219] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

COLONIAL STUDENTS

Report of the Colonial Students Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, December, 1938 [Colonial No. 161] 9d. (10d.)

Lists are issued showing schedules of Offices in the following Colonial Services with the names and brief biographical records of the holders. Each list includes the Special Regulations by the Secretary of State relating to the Service concerned :—

Colonial Administrative Service List	[Colonial No. 147] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.)
Colonial Agricultural Service List	[Colonial No. 157] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)
Colonial Audit Service List	[Colonial No. 162] 4d. (5d.)
Colonial Forest Service List	[Colonial No. 163] 6d. (7d.)
Colonial Legal Service List	[Colonial No. 158] 9d. (10d.)
Colonial Medical Service List	[Colonial No. 159] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.)
Colonial Veterinary Service List	[Colonial No. 160] 6d. (7d.)

All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage

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LONDON, W.C.2 : York House, Kingsway
EDINBURGH 2 : 120, George Street MANCHESTER 1 : 26, York Street
CARDIFF : 1, St. Andrew's Crescent BELFAST : 80, Chichester Street
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